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MARRIAGES.

On the 23rd December, 1898, at Trinity Church, Boston, by the Right Rev. William Lawrence, D.D., Bishop of Massachusetts, assisted by the Rev. E. Winchester Donald, D.D., FRANCIS AYSCOUGH, of Shanghai, China, to MARY FLORENCE WHELOCK, of Boston, U.S.A.

On the 23rd December, 1898, at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A., the Rev. W. NELSON BITTON, of the London Mission, Shanghai, to EVELYN LUCIE, 7th daughter of J. WARR, Esq., late of Weedon, Northamptonshire, England.

At St. John's Cathedral, on the 29th December, by the Rev. R. F. Cobbold, Dr. J. H. SWAN, third son of Wm. SWAN, Longham, Ireland, to ANNIE GRACE PATTERSON, third daughter of the late HENRY PATTERSON, of Manchester. [2819]

DEATHS.

At the General Hospital, Shanghai, on the 18th December, 1898, ARTHUR OLIFF, aged 17 years.

At 5, Richmond Terrace, Hongkong, on the 25th December, MARY CONSTANCE, the beloved wife of Captain C. W. REILLY, R.A.M.C., and daughter of GEORGE ALLEN BUTLIN, Esq., Westfield House, Braunston, Northamptonshire, England.

At 7, Caine Road, on the 28th December, MIMA, beloved wife of Mr. Wm. POWELL, aged 46 years.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The English mail of the 25th November arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Chusan*, on the 25th December (30 days); the American mail of the 29th November arrived, per O. & O. steamer *Coptic*, on the 28th December (29 days); and the Canadian mail of the 5th December arrived, per C. P. R. steamer *Empress of China*, on the 28th December (23 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The N. C. Daily News publishes a special telegram from its London correspondent, dated 21st December, stating that Russia has agreed to make Port Arthur and Talienwan open ports.

Mr. De Burgh Persse, Chairman of the Rand Gold Mining Co., is now visiting the mines at Raub.

According to telegrams in the Manila papers Lieut. Hobson, the hero of Santiago, has been ordered to Manila and is now en route.

The Japanese steamer *Yayeyama*, which fouled the *Brindisi* at Moji the other day and sank, was formerly the British steamer *Flintshire*.

The following official telegram has been received from H.B.M. Minister, Japan:—"Medical inspection enforced in Japan against arrivals from Formosa."

H.E. Senhor Galhardo, Governor of Macao and Portuguese Minister to the various Courts of the Far East, returned from a visit to Bangkok by the steamer *Wong Koi*.

The *Echo de Chine* says that the news is confirmed that Père Victorin and a large number of Christians have been massacred by the emulators of Yü Man-tze. The situation in Hupé is very serious.

The steamer *Glenavon*, which left Hongkong at five o'clock on the afternoon of the 29th December on her homeward voyage, struck about a quarter past seven on a submerged rock off Shamun Island and sank. Three of the crew are missing.

It is with much regret that we (*Foochow Echo*) learn of the possibility of the Foochow Tea Improvement Company being wound up. The past year's working has been so unsatisfactory that there appears to be no alternative to putting the concern into liquidation.

A fire occurred on the 14th December on board the British ship *Troop*, lying in Yokohama harbour. At the time of the fire the vessel had nearly 6,000 cases of kerosine oil on board, but fortunately the flames were got under control before much damage was occasioned.

A notification has been issued by the Chinese Consulate at Manila with reference to the registration of Chinese in which it is stated that the Consulate will be open every day "except foreign barbarians' holidays and Sundays." The term used is "I-Yang," "Yang" meaning foreign and "i" barbarian.

Manila papers received on Thursday state that General Rios was making preparations for the evacuation of Iloilo. It was intended to transfer the troops to Zamboanga, in the island of Mindanao, 280 miles to the south of Iloilo. Most of the sick and wounded had already been embarked for Spain. It was reported that the troops formerly stationed in Cebu, Mindanao, Sulu, and the Carolines had already been concentrated at Zamboanga, whence they were to be conveyed to Spain.

A telegraphic dispatch received at Shanghai by the local mandarins from N. Kinohou, outside the Great Wall, reports that General Sung Ch'ing, Commandant of the Wuyi Army Corps of 30,000 men, left that city on the 19th instant for Shanhaikuan with the bulk of his forces. This last-named post has been chosen by the Empress Dowager to be General Sung Ch'ing's headquarters in her grand scheme to surround Peking with a quarter of a million of foreign-equipped troops to oppose invasion from Manchuria or the Gulf.—N. C. Daily News.

Messrs. Lamke and Rogge inform us that they have received a telegram from Messrs. Pasdag & Co., Amoy, stating that the American ship *Berlin* has arrived at Amoy and appears to have sustained little damage. The *Berlin*, bound from New York to Amoy, grounded on Dodd Island, and it was at one time feared that she would prove a total loss.

The Japanese Government has submitted to the House of Peers a Bill for the amendment of the Press Law. The law as it stands at present limits publication to Japanese subjects only, and the amendment is evidently designed to bring the law into accordance with the Treaties, which give foreigners the right to pursue their professions in Japan.

On the 16th December two gunpowder magazines exploded at Hangchow, and the concussion was felt at Sicawei, some 15 miles distant, at 6.43 p.m. The Director at Sicawei, not having heard of the explosion at the time, attributed the trembling of the ground to an earthquake. There were two shocks at Sicawei, one lasting five and the other fifteen seconds. The damage done at Hangchow was immense. The American Presbyterian Mission (South) premises were shattered, as were those of the Roman Catholic Mission, while houses five miles distant had the ceilings fall and the floors forced up.—Union.

The P. & O. steamer *Brindisi* arrived at Nagasaki on the 20th December from Moji. This vessel, it will be remembered, is one of the two steamers with which the unfortunate *Yayeyama-maru* collided in Moji harbour. The *Brindisi*, we learn, is considerably damaged, having been cut down from the hawse-pipe on the starboard bow close to the stem of the vessel below the water. The damage below the water-line is not known. In addition to this, the vessel has lost two anchors with 7 fathoms of chain, and also two boats on the starboard side. At Moji, to enable the *Brindisi* to reach this port, she was filled up forward of the collision bulk-head with layers of sleepers and concrete. The vessel will go into the local dock for repairs, which, it is thought, will take several weeks to execute.—Nagasaki Press.

We translate the following from the *Courrier de Saigon*:—"We draw the attention of the Government to the presence in Cochinchina of a certain Calvinistic preacher who, under pretence of selling bibles to the natives, is simply spying out the land. It is a matter of no concern to us whether the Annamites have any inclination towards the reformed religion, though we should think its cult too harsh and arid for a people so light and careless. A religion without authority and without promises, Protestantism has no chance of success in Annam. Nevertheless it is inexpedient that under cover of evangelisation England should infiltrate our possessions with secret agents, especially at a time when our relations are becoming more and more strained. The Government cannot keep its eyes too wide open. We will return to this subject when our correspondents in the interior, with whom we have communicated, shall have furnished us with the necessary information." What would our French friends say if an English journal wrote in this strain with reference to the presence, say, of the Missions Etrangères in an English colony?

THE COMMERCIAL ATTACHE.

(Daily Press, 28th December).

As a nation we are prone to resent, and rightly so, any state interference with trade; nor, as a rule are we inclined to depend much upon state help in our commercial relations with other countries; but when we make up our minds that such state assistance is both desirable and necessary it then becomes every individual's business to see that we get it and are not put off with some substitute by a department of our Government which, after all, has its being to further the progress of the people whose voice it is. Some time back there was a growing feeling that something must be done to bring the manufacturer and also the buyer of Chinese produce at home into closer relationship with the needs of his Chinese buyers in the one case and the source of his supplies in the other. The Blackburn Commission and Lord CHARLES BERESFORD's Mission are both the outcome of this feeling. It was also strongly urged that we should have a commercial attaché in China to gather information and to generally conduct a Bureau of Trade. The Government, feeling forced to do something in the face of this strong expression of public feeling, appointed the Consul-General in Shanghai to take up the duties of commercial attaché in addition to his other work, paying him an extra £100 a year for doing it. There is probably no one who would refuse to acknowledge that it is impossible for one man to conduct both offices in a satisfactory manner, no matter how industrious he might be; and it is not difficult to see which duties are the most likely to be shelved in the pressing needs of every day work. The deduction to be drawn from this state of things is that we should first of all decide, do we or do we not require a commercial attaché in China? and if the reply is in the affirmative—as it undoubtedly is, from the fact that the appointment was only made in deference to strong public representation—then see that we get a suitable man and pay him a sufficient salary. This would be more in accordance with our traditions than the present state of things, which is a disgrace to the Foreign Office who conceived it and the people in whose interests he appointment was made.

In using the term commercial attaché we perhaps commit the fault of using a French word where an English one would do, but it is by no means our idea that a French interpretation should be put upon the duties attached to the post in question. What is required, and what we should insist on having, is a man thoroughly conversant with China and its language and with a natural bent for the subject he is to take up. He should have his headquarters at one of the principal ports—Shanghai would without doubt be the most suitable—and be in close correspondence with the various Consuls throughout China, over whom, in commercial matters, he would exercise certain control, sufficient at least to ensure the researches and efforts of those gentlemen being directed into the right and most profitable channels. All trade reports would be sent to him and a summary of the important points, as far as trade is concerned, made from them and placed, in a complete and readable form, at the disposal of merchants and manufacturers at home, who in their turn would be able to supply information and make suggestions, confident that in doing so their communications would receive attention and prompt reply, which under the present system is impossible. It is the

experience of not a few merchants both at home and abroad to read through a Consular trade report and see that the import of woollens fell off 20 per cent., or the amount of cotton yarn increased by 10 per cent. over the previous year, and to accept the fact as being of a certain amount of interest from an abstract point of view, but practically valueless. He (the merchant) has sold as much as he can and the fact of the increase or decrease cannot affect him in any way; and, moreover, if he is of an enquiring turn of mind and has time to go through all the trade reports he will probably find that the increase or decrease as the case may be is perhaps due at the special port reported on to the raising or lowering of provincial taxation on that trade route. In the case of buyers of exports the difficulty of obtaining the required information frequently stops what would otherwise prove profitable business. We now have before us a letter which has been following one of our Consuls about China for the best part of a year, as it was known by the firm at home that the Consul in question was familiar with, and, in fact, had made a study of the product about which they were desirous of getting information. Had this firm been able to write to such a department as we suggest should be established, the latest and fullest information on the subject would have been at once placed at their disposal, with the result that buyer and seller would have been brought together at least nine months earlier than was actually the case.

The Customs Returns do in a measure supply information such as that required by the firm above mentioned, but they cannot, from the nature of things, take the place of the returns which a commercial attaché would quickly have available for public information. The Customs Returns, valuable as they are, yet leave a good deal to be desired, as anyone can testify who has tried to ascertain from them how much of (say) Szechuen produce is an export to a foreign country, how much an export to Hongkong, and how much domestic trade. One of the first duties of the officer appointed to the new department would be to summarize these Returns and show at a glance what was an export and what an import; to this he would add information, obtainable from other sources, showing the chief producing or buying centre of each. Produce of all kinds would to a large extent occupy his attention, but it would not be confined to the mere compiling of statistics. As an "official broker" his services would be invaluable. Nor need produce alone be dealt with; railway and mining concessions, the erection of public works in China as affording a scope for the profitable investment of British capital, would all be within his sphere.

We will not trespass on the reader's time and patience any longer by arguments which are a foregone conclusion. The need for a commercial attaché exists; an attempt has been made by the Foreign Office to supply the want, and it has failed. It now remains for us to see that the remedy is applied by the creation of a separate department and the appointment of a man to fulfil the duties required in it. The Chambers of Commerce, both at home and in the East, might with advantage give serious attention to this matter. An important point presenting itself for decision at the outset would be the principle on which the selection of the attaché should be made. Should we go to the Consular Service to find a man for the post, or try to secure one who has had a thorough commercial training,

who understands business in its practical details, and whose sympathies and associations are with trade? Theoretically the latter would be the preferable, but we are at once confronted with the difficulty of finding a man possessing the qualifications we have mentioned and at the same time knowledge of the Chinese language, a without which his capacity for usefulness would be confined within narrower bounds than is desirable; and, furthermore, a mercantile man thoroughly suitable for the post would probably do better for himself in trade than by accepting a Government appointment with a fixed salary. The choice seems therefore to be confined to the Consular Service, and fortunately there are several members of that body who have given evidence of aptitude for the work. Mr. HOSIE's interest in the products of China is well known, and his report on Formosa issued some years ago and his more recent report on the products and resources of Kwangsi indicate him as an eminently suitable man for the proposed office. Mr. BOURNE has also contributed largely to our knowledge of the products of Western China. Some of the younger members of the Service are following in the steps of these pioneers and would be further encouraged to do so if ultimate appointment to the Bureau of Trade was held before them as amongst the prizes of the Service. If the Bureau should be established it is evident that the appointments in connection with it must be made by selection from amongst those who have shown special aptitude and cannot go by order of seniority.

JAPANESE RULE IN FORMOSA.

(Daily Press, 27th December.)

The progress of Japanese rule in Formosa has up to the present point proved disappointing. The Japanese have occupied the island, and they collect the Customs revenues and administer the government in the towns, but their authority is not respected outside urban limits. Banditti swarm in the country, and they are powerful enough to terrorise the peaceful inhabitants. Trade languishes because there is no security for property, and the agriculturists and planters only raise limited crop because they do not care to sow that others may possibly reap the harvest. The Government is just strong enough to tax the peaceable inhabitants and to make laws which are at present unwelcome to the Chinese, but they are not strong enough to repress disorder; they can give no adequate protection against the disaffected in the hill districts, who with more or less success maintain a guerilla warfare with the troops, set all authority at defiance, and make the lives of the industrious dwellers in the valleys a burden to them. The Japanese evidently have no special genius for colonisation; they more resemble the French than the English in their methods. They have yet to discover that a system of red tape and officialism will not pacify a country nor lead to the development of its resources. So far the Tokyo Government do not seem to have practised any selection in their colonial officials. Nor do they appear to have encouraged any settlement by Japanese in Formosa. They have simply planted bodies of officials and troops in the island without taking any effectual measures to put down brigandage and make their rule accepted and acknowledged. Meantime most of the few Japanese who have sought the island for purposes of trade or exploration have returned to their own country.

disgusted with the climate and conditions in Formosa. Under the present conditions the island is not likely to prove of value to the Mikado's Empire; rather will it become a source of weakness to Japan. It is time the Japanese people took up the matter and tried to induce the Government to apply a rational policy to the administration of this new possession. Money must be spent if the resources of the island are to be opened up, and tact, conciliation, and persuasion used in dealing with the Chinese. First and foremost a determined effort should be made to subjugate the rebels in the hill districts, and to give complete protection to the peaceable and loyal population. These should be encouraged to abandon the queue, and the use of the Japanese language should be encouraged in the schools. By treating all those who embraced Japanese costume and customs with indulgence the Chinese settlers would soon be weaned from the ties which bound them to China, more those of sentiment and trade with Fukien than anything else. The true policy of Japan is so to educate and train up the rising race in Formosa as to lead to their gradual assimilation to the Japanese people, and this can best be done by kindness and liberality, so that they may become a source of strength and not of weakness to the Empire. To accomplish this, however, the means of communication must be made good and rapid, so that the country may be opened up and its resources developed, to the end that the necessarily increased expenditure may be provided for. One important factor in this policy will be the more generous treatment of foreign merchants. They have done much in the past to develop the trade of the island, and, if encouraged, will continue this good work, a work the Japanese show no great desire to take up. Ever since the acquisition by Japan of the Beautiful Island we have watched its progress with sympathetic and undiminished interest, as an experiment in colonisation by the most intelligent and adaptive of all Eastern races, and so far have been disappointed to see results so meagre compared with what were confidently expected at the time of its acquisition.

TRADE WITH CIVILISED AND UNCIVILISED COUNTRIES.

(Daily Press, 30th December.)

In an editorial note suggested by a scheme advanced in the *Westminster Gazette* for promoting the development of British trade upon the Continent the *Daily Graphic* says:—"Whether this particular scheme is feasible need not here be discussed. Its immediate importance lies in its recognition of the fact that it is with the older countries of the world that the most valuable portion of our trade is done, and that we hold this trade solely by the excellence of our wares. Tariffs, it is interesting to note in passing, have far less effect on the direction of our trade than the popular mind imagines. Turkey, for example, is a practically free-trade country, yet in proportion to her population she spends on British goods less than a quarter of the money spent by protectionist Germany. The United States, again, with its almost savagely protectionist tariff, spends nearly thirty times as much on British goods as free-trade China. Even Russia is a far better customer to us both absolutely and relatively than China. The explanation is simple. The best manufacturers in the world cannot sell to people who are so poor that they either want nothing or can-

"not afford to pay for what they want. In comparison with this barrier of absolute poverty, tariffs are an insignificant obstacle. By all means, then, let our enterprising rivals make a profit if they can by selling shoddy goods on long credit to Philippine islanders and other semi-savages. The more they prosper in this or any other trade, the better customers they will become for solid English wares."

This view attracts attention by its novelty, and it has some element of truth in it, but it would be unfortunate if it led to any under-estimation of the importance of developing trade with backward countries. The latter are poor, in the majority of cases on account of their defective organisation rather than on account of any natural disadvantages. China, for instance, enjoys natural advantages as great as those of India, or nearly so, but whereas in 1896, according to the figures given in the last edition of the "Statesman's Year Book," the exports from the United Kingdom in India amounted to over thirty millions sterling China took only £6,717,353 worth of goods from the same source, to which must be added, however, another £1,822,037 worth sent to Hongkong, most of which would ultimately find their way to China. Is there any reason why China should not be as good a customer for merchandise from the United Kingdom as India? None, except the obstacles to the extension of trade in the shape of the squeeze system, the defective communications of the country, and its general lack of development. The potentialities of the China trade therefore make it well worth our while to cultivate it with assiduity. The Philippine Islands, too, will offer under their new ownership a splendid field for British trade and enterprise, and even as things stand they do not merit the sneer directed at them by the *Graphic* writer.

We cannot profess to hail the extension of Russian influence in North China with the same cordiality as that with which we welcome the establishment of American rule in the Philippines, but we believe nevertheless that the opening up of Manchuria under Russian influence will contribute to rather than detract from the value of British trade in that region, and is on that account to be approved rather than condemned. It would be undignified as well as opposed to our own interest to enter upon "a policy of pinpricks" with regard to Russia in North-eastern Asia such as that with which France has so irritated England in Africa and elsewhere. The Siberian Railway on its completion will stand out as one of the great achievements of civilisation and will constitute an important artery for the world's trade. Provided differential tariffs in Manchuria are guarded against, England can well afford to refrain from attempting to balk Russia in carrying her enterprise to its full fruition by securing free access to an unfrozen seaboard.

GENERAL BLACK'S DEPARTURE AND MILITARY GOVERNORSHIPS.

(Daily Press, 24th December.)

H.E. Major-General BLACK leaves for home to-day on the termination of his command of the troops on the Hongkong station. For the larger portion of the present year His Excellency discharged the duties of Acting Governor in addition to those of the General Officer Commanding and was thus brought into close touch with

the community. The functions of that office, both administrative and social, he fulfilled with tact and ability, and he will carry away with him the regard and hearty good wishes of the colony at large. Without interfering unduly with the routine work of the various departments General BLACK showed himself capable of taking an independent view of all questions of policy brought before him, and his judgment was always exercised for the advantage of the public. Perhaps at the present moment many people may be inclined to qualify this statement, inasmuch as it was under General BLACK's administration that building in Glenealy was authorised, but in justice to His Excellency it should be pointed out that the papers in the case would come before him merely as a matter of routine and that unless his attention was specially called to the case he could hardly be expected to take the initiative in opposing the erection of buildings duly approved by the Director of Public Works on privately owned ground. The unfortunate failure to preserve Glenealy is due rather to the vice of our system of government than to any individual failure to safeguard the public interest on the part of the head of the administration. As a set-off to the loss of Glenealy the public is indebted to General BLACK for the preservation in perpetuity of the Causeway Bay Recreation Ground and for the further opening up of the Hill District by the construction of Black's Link, the idea in each case being of His Excellency's own origination.

The success of General BLACK's administration, following at not a very long interval upon the equally successful administrations of General CAMERON and General BARKER, is calculated to again suggest the idea that has on some former occasions been mooted, namely, that the government of the colony might with safety be entrusted permanently to the officer commanding the troops, especially if the change were accompanied by a liberal measure of municipal self-government. It must not be forgotten, however, that if the administration of the government were permanently handed over to the officer for the time being in command of the garrison we would have to reckon not only with the General individually but also in a much larger measure than is now the case with the War Office, and unfortunately mercantile and local interests weigh but little with that department. Moreover, the opposition offered by General CORBONE to the making of Kennedy Road suggests that a military Governor, even without direct instructions to that effect from the War Office, might be inclined to allow fanciful military considerations to obstruct public improvements. The change from a civil to a military Governor is therefore not one to be hastily approved of or recommended, though the colony's experience of military Acting Governors has so far not been unfavourable. The community will certainly entertain pleasant recollections of General BLACK. If His Excellency should hereafter elect to exercise his gift of oratory in the House of Commons he would no doubt speedily achieve personal distinction in that assembly and would certainly be able to render good service to his country, especially in regard to its interests in the Far East.

A notification appears in the *Gazette* repealing notification No. 405 of 17th September last and the regulations of the 16th September published thereunder. The regulations in question referred to the taxation of wharves.

THE VICTORIA RECREATION CLUB AND THE REGATTA.

(Daily Press, 29th December).

At the distribution of the Regatta prizes on Saturday Captain HASTINGS remarked that this year's regatta was the forty-second held under the auspices of the Victoria Recreation Club. The statement is calculated to lead to some misapprehension, inasmuch as the Victoria Recreation Club was not in existence forty-two years ago, though that Club on its formation absorbed the organisation under whose auspices the regatta had previously been held. The original Victoria Regatta Club was formed in October, 1849, and was reconstituted in April, 1861, having apparently been moribund during a portion of the intervening period. The Victoria Recreation Club was established in 1872 and sprang from the amalgamation of three pre-existing Clubs, namely, the Rowing Club (or Regatta Club), the Swimming Club, and the Gymnasium. The Swimming Club may be regarded as the real parent of the present organisation, as it was that Club that secured the site (or a portion of it) on which the Recreation Club's premises now stand. The opening ceremony of the Swimming Club was presided over by Sir RICHARD MACDONNELL on the 1st November, 1866, and the report of the proceedings is interesting at the present day for its reference to the social question, which has of late years so much exercised the Club. His Excellency said:—"I would, however, remind the Committee that in giving the site and entrusting its management to them I have made them trustees for no individual interests, but rather for the general public, and I therefore hope that so far as subsequent experience and the state of their funds may admit they will take a liberal view of their duties and render the establishment as widely beneficial as possible." In 1872 the boat-house was erected and the Victoria Recreation Club formed, and from that time to the present the regattas have been held under the auspices of the organisation as it now exists, but, it must be confessed, with diminishing popularity, especially during the last eight or ten years.

Various theories have been advanced to account for the diminishing popularity of what used to be our great aquatic carnival, each of which probably has some element of truth in it, for many causes have contributed to the result. What strikes us, however, as one of the principal causes, has hardly been touched upon. With rowing swimming used to be closely associated, but with the silting up of the foreshore the bath has become an undesirable place for bathing, the water generally being more or less filthy, so that the expression made use of by Sir RICHARD MACDONNELL, *merses profundo pulchrior evēhit*, would be quite inapplicable to any present day bather; and the deterioration of the bath has led to the disuse of the Club by many who formerly patronised it. The Recreation Club in the seventies and early eighties used to be the great gathering place for the European community in the summer afternoons after business hours; taipans might be seen there disporting themselves quite freely in the water with their juniors, and those who did not go to swim went to gossip. As the summer waned and the evenings got cooler the interest in the rowing department quickened and when the training for the regatta commenced the crews as they went out and returned were closely watched

and criticised, the regatta prospects exercising almost as great a fascination as the annual race meeting at Happy Valley. But as the bath gradually silted up and became unpleasant, while at the same time the ever increasing number of steam launches brought bathing off the beaches of Stonecutters or Sywan within the reach of so many, the Recreation Club became more and more deserted during the summer months by certain sections of the community and the interest in rowing alone proved insufficient to draw them back when the bathing season ended. The Club also became year by year less and less "select," a very literal interpretation having been given to Sir RICHARD MACDONNELL's recommendation on this point. At the same time other competing forms of recreation were being introduced. In the old days the only forms of exercise available in the summer were riding or driving and aquatics, with walking thrown in of course, but Kennedy Road was not then made, not to speak of Bowen Road and the walks at the Peak, and with practically only the Shaukiwan Road available both riding and walking were somewhat monotonous amusements. In the winter there was cricket, but only for the members of the Hongkong Cricket Club, there being no Happy Valley Recreation ground in those days. Now we have polo, cricket, golf, football, hockey, tennis, and cycling, with the result that the Victoria Recreation Club with its muddy swimming bath and its boating is only one amongst many institutions formed for recreation and exercise, and hardly the most attractive. There is even a competing boating club, formed, not as Captain HASTINGS seemed to suggest on Saturday, for the convenience of the Kowloon residents, but by a number of men to whom the social tone of the Recreation Club had ceased to be agreeable. The result of all these causes combined is that the Club's regatta now enjoys but a faint shadow of the glory that surrounded it in the old days when the course for a large portion of its length was lined with gaily decked lighters, each with its own party on board; when the intervals between the races were filled up by the interchange of visits, the water being alive with gigs and dinghies; and when the Regatta Ball wound up the carnival. The meeting still affords an excuse for a couple of half-holidays, but far more people make use of the welcome cessation of business to indulge in golf, tennis, or other games than in going to see the regatta.

Rowing, however, is still the favourite form of recreation with a large section of the youth of the colony and it merits encouragement. Although the Victoria Recreation Club does not enjoy the same social standing as it did formerly, yet from a public point of view, which is the point of view that ought to be adopted by the Government, it probably serves a more useful purpose than ever before, by placing facilities for recreation and exercise within the reach of many who might not be able so conveniently to find them elsewhere. Exception must be made to this statement in so far as regards the swimming bath, the site no longer being suitable for that purpose, but it is hoped that a new site may be secured before very long where bathing may be enjoyed in water that will be clean at all states of the tide. It was hoped that the new site might be arranged in conjunction with the Naval Yard reclamation, by favour of the Naval authorities, but there appears to be some doubt now whether this will be feasible. Where

ever the site may ultimately be found, however, we would venture to draw the attention of Sir HENRY BLAKE to the remarks of Sir RICHARD MACDONNELL in opening the swimming bath and to suggest for His Excellency's consideration whether the time has not arrived when, instead of granting a site for a swimming bath to any particular Club, a public bath should not be provided that should be open to anyone who was willing to pay such fee as might be necessary to provide for the up-keep. Admission to membership in the Recreation Club is tolerably open, but an attempt was made a few years ago to render it less so, and the colony has now reached a stage when Government grants to private clubs should cease altogether. The community is a fairly wealthy one and if small sections wish to form exclusive clubs of their own, as they have a perfect right to do, they should do so at their own expense and not at that of the public. The recent grant of Deep Bay to the Golf Club, for instance, was a transaction to which no Government should have been a party. Sir HENRY BLAKE can hardly hope to escape similar applications during his term of office, but it is to be hoped he will draw the line where it is drawn in Great Britain and decline to give any private club exclusive rights over public land. By all means let us have all the recreation grounds and swimming baths that we can get, but if they are to be provided at the public expense let them be open to the use of the public on the same lines as the parks, recreation grounds, and public swimming baths at home.

SUPREME COURT.

23rd December.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

BEFORE SIR JOHN CARRINGTON (CHIEF JUSTICE).

THE CHARGES AGAINST SANITARY BOARD OFFICIALS.

A CONTRADICTORY WITNESS.—DEFENDANTS DISCHARGED.

Frederick Howard Kew, chief clerk and accountant in the Sanitary Department, and Lo Wing, chief messenger in the same department, were each charged (1) with attempting to obtain a bribe as a public servant with a view to influence his conduct as public servant; (2) attempting to obtain a bribe as a public servant with a view to incline him to do an act contrary to the rules of honesty and integrity; (3) attempting to extort money under colour of office.

Both prisoners pleaded not guilty.

The Acting Attorney-General (Mr. H. E. Pollock), instructed by Mr. H. L. Denny (Crown Solicitor) appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Francis, Q.C. (instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist), appeared for Kew.

The following composed the jury—Messrs. J. A. M. Brüggmann, M. J. Patell, John Sutherland, J. W. Bolles, J. M. H. Meier, John Lysaught, and Thomas Meek.

The Acting Attorney-General said the defendants in this case were charged in effect with attempting to obtain a bribe of \$15 from a certain Chinaman called Au Ping Kwan, who was the manager of the Kwang Hing Bakery at 157, Hollywood Road, on the 8th November. Inspector Phillips, who was an inspector of nuisances, went to the Kwang Hing Bakery at about half-past two accompanied by a Chinese interpreter, and said he was going to summon the master for having the premises or the baking tins in a dirty condition. The Inspector then left the shop, and shortly afterwards a messenger who was employed at the Sanitary Board office called Chau Hing came to the shop and delivered a certain message there, and in consequence of that message Au Ping

Kwan went to the Sanitary Board Office about three o'clock the same afternoon, accompanied by another baker named Tang Shan. There they saw the second defendant. An Ping Kwan asked him what was the matter, and he got the reply, "I will take you in," meaning that he would take him inside the office. The second defendant then took An Ping Kwan into the first defendant's office, while the other baker remained outside, and left him there. After asking him to what shop he belonged the first defendant said to An Ping Kwan, "These few days the Inspector has been unpleasant and wants to summon you." An Ping Kwan then went outside, and the second defendant went into the first defendant's office, subsequently coming out and saying to An Ping Kwan, who was in the passage, "Clerk (meaning the first defendant) wants you to go to the Kwan Tai Cheung on the second floor, Wellington Street, to wait for him at 8 p.m." In consequence of that message An Ping Kwan went to the Kwan Tai Cheung eating house the same evening at about eight o'clock. He did not see the first defendant there, but he saw him in the street, and the first defendant said, "The Inspector has been very unpleasant about you. He said that your premises are dirty. Is that so? The Inspector says he wishes to summon you. I am very friendly with the Inspector, and I will send someone to let you know." No other communication of any importance seemed to have taken place between them on this occasion. At about two o'clock on the afternoon of the 12th November the second defendant went to An Ping Kwan's shop, and left a message there; An Ping Kwan being out at the time. He arrived, however, at about four o'clock and the following day about noon he went to the Sanitary Board Office, but as the day was Sunday there was no one there. On the 14th November, at about ten o'clock in the morning, the second defendant came along to the Hwang Hing Bakery and asked An Ping Kwan to go to the Sanitary Board office. Almost immediately afterwards An Ping Kwan went to the Sanitary Board office, and on his arrival there he saw the second defendant in the verandah and asked him, "What's the matter?" The second defendant replied, "Nothing is the matter. Want \$25 from you. There will be no prosecution. It will be all-right." An Ping Kwan made no reply to that suggestion, and the second defendant then went into the first defendant's office, and on coming out again said, "No mistake. It is \$25 wanted from you and no prosecution." An Ping Kwan replied, "Business is dull," and offered \$10. The second defendant went into the first defendant's office again, and on his re-appearing said "The lowest is \$15," and to this An Ping Kwan agreed. Then the second defendant went into the first defendant's office, coming out again followed by the first defendant, who stood in the door way. The first defendant had a pen or pencil in his hand, and pointing to the second defendant he said to An Ping Kwan, "You can pay the \$15 to him." Then the first defendant went back into the office, and the second defendant, addressing An Ping Kwan, said to him, "Have you got the money now?" and An Ping Kwan replied, "Two or three days later." As he was going away An Ping Kwan, who wished to make certain he was not going to pay the money for nothing, asked the second defendant, "Is this the case? If I pay you \$15 will there be no prosecution?" The second defendant replied, "Nothing will be the matter. If the Inspector gets unpleasant come back and get the \$15." On the following day Lo Wing went to the Kwang Hing shop at about ten o'clock in the morning and said to An Ping Kwan, "Your \$15 you can put into an envelope and seal it with anything you like on it and take it to the Sanitary Office." As a matter of fact no money was paid over, because An Ping Kwan went to the Police Court and laid an information with regard to the matter, because he had heard that Inspector Phillips, notwithstanding this proposal that he should pay \$15 to someone, was going to summon him for having his bakery in a dirty condition.

An Ping Kwan was then sworn. His evidence contradicted that given by him at the Magistracy in so many important particulars

that without proceeding further the Chief Justice directed the jury to return a verdict of not guilty, which they accordingly did, and defendants were thereupon discharged.

THE EMPRESS-DOWAGER'S RECEPTION OF FOREIGN LADIES.

A BRILLIANT AND SUCCESSFUL FUNCTION.

THE CREDIT DUE TO PRINCE HENRY AND LADY MACDONALD.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

Peking, 18th December.

Some six months ago Prince Henry of Prussia laughingly enquired of Lady MacDonald what he could do for her in the Palace when he had his audience next day. Her ladyship replied gaily, "Please tell Her Majesty the Dowager she ought to let us come to Court." "It shall be done," said the Prince with sailor-like frankness; and sure enough it was. He plainly told the Imperial Lady that she would find a personal pleasure in receiving the diplomatic ladies and do a public service in conforming to the unwritten as well as the written laws of international etiquette. The Empress took the proposal as frankly as it was given and instantly said it would afford her great pleasure to receive the ladies.

About ten days ago a catholic round-robin sort of general invitation was conveyed through the proper channels that Her Majesty would be delighted to see ten ladies. Every courtier knows that Kings and Queens must not be asked questions like other folks, so that there was no satisfaction to the query why the limit was fixed at ten. It is no secret that this somewhat exclusive number caused a flutter in the lower tiers of the diplomatic dovescotes. The question of dress was also for a time a matter of much anxiety. Court dresses, evening and morning costume, all finding advocates; but finally the matter was settled. The wife of the Japanese Minister donned national costume, the European ladies assumed dinner dresses modified to meet Chinese views of propriety as to neck and shoulder.

The legations represented were the American, British, Dutch, French, German, Japanese, and Russian. The ladies held tryst at the British legation, on Tuesday, 15th December, as Lady MacDonald was, in the absence of the Spanish lady, *doyenne*. Entering chairs, they were marshalled through streets lined with soldiers to the gates of the Forbidden City. Here the dignitaries of the Tsungli Yamen and some of the princely members received them. They were then transferred to Imperial chairs and carried to the famous Marble Bridge. Here they got on to the electric tramway and were conveyed to the Reception Hall, where Princess Ching received them with a countless following of princesses and ladies of honour.

They had tea, and were at once ushered into the presence. To their great surprise and pleasure the Emperor was there, manifesting the greatest interest and pleasure in the ceremony and taking a great personal part in it.

Lady MacDonald read a neat little address in English to the Dowager, congratulating her on her birthday. Her Majesty replied in Chinese. Then Lady MacDonald led the way to the dais and *more Britannico* made a sweeping bow as she passed the Emperor's throne. Kwong Su bowed deeply in return, smiled brightly, and then leaned forward, offering his hand, of which each lady got a hearty shake. Passing on, the same ceremony took place at the Dowager's seat: she held each hand after shaking it and deftly slipped a gold ring with one handsome pearl mounted therein on to the lady's finger. These rings were all ready in a box hard by. This was followed by adjournment to a Hall chose at hand, where a luncheon worthy of Lucullus was served, Princess Ching presiding. The Empress then came in, accompanied by a sweetly pretty little Manchurian lady, who proved no other than the Emperor's wife, the constitutional Empress. Both chatted freely, long, and amiably with all the ladies. A grand theatrical performance followed, the guests, like the native ladies, sitting in closed boxes with plate glass fronts. Cakes and sweets galore were going all the time.

When this was finished the Dowager saw them once more, eagerly asking if they had enjoyed the ceremony, and expressing regret that she could not gratify them with entertainments such as their own Courts at home supplied. With her own hands she presented each guest with an ivory comb, rolls of silk, and a picture-on-silk, painted by herself, as she was careful to accentuate. The guests were then conveyed back to the British Legation with every mark of distinguished respect and ceremony.

The ladies to a woman were deeply impressed by the personality of the Dowager. She has a strong resolute face, almost virile in cast but redeemed by a fine womanly smile. Her hair is coal black, but is whitening near the temples. Her manner is affectionate amiability personified.

AFFAIRS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

FIRST TROOPS MUSTERED OUT.

VOLUNTEER PIONEERS.

A NEW REPUBLIC.

AGUINALDO'S SICK MILITARY AND CIVIL PRISONERS TO BE RELEASED.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Manila, 17th December.

The first of the returning troops, consisting of the much lauded Astor Battery and a detachment of 100 Nebraska Volunteers, sailed for home by the transports *Senator* and *Ohio* on Friday and Sunday. Their departure, coming with only a few hours' notice, was unmarked by any of the usual demonstrations attendant upon the first expedition of returning troops on foreign service.

In the Astor Battery alone, twelve per cent. of the men wished to remain and go into business or take chances in the islands, but permission for elective mustering out of the service has not yet been granted, and the men were obliged to return with the battery to be relieved from service in America. Nearly all of the twelve per cent. announced their intentions of returning here at their own expense. Thus the first expedition is an excellent indication of the impressions received by the American volunteers.

An organization is now in existence which is rapidly growing in numbers and financial strength, whose purpose is the development of the opportunities found in the islands. Several enthusiastic meetings of men who propose to remain in the Philippines have been held and the cash backing for the scheme is not lacking. The question of elective discharge in the islands will be vigorously pushed by the members. By this is meant that men who have served out their full time or who are ordered home to be mustered out shall have the choice of going home or of being relieved here, and in addition that those who shall be discharged here shall have paid to them their transportation money, which amounts to about \$430. This, converted into Mexican silver, would provide ample capital for a beginning. While the scheme will prove more expensive to the United States the advantage of having responsible able-bodied men of spirit as pioneers will be worth many times the cash price to the Government. Volunteers from all regiments are taking an active interest, the War Department has been communicated with, and happy results are soon expected.

THE SITUATION AT ILOILO.

The latest news from Iloilo is discouraging from both commercial and political standpoints. The merchants are reluctant to invest or take on stock as the conditions are extremely uncertain. An American merchant, Mr. Hilbert, who has just returned, states that things are practically at a standstill. Fighting, more or less vigorous as days wear on, continues with monotonous regularity, and leaves everything in a state of confusion.

Spanish fortifications at Puerta de Practicas command the Filipino city of Jaro, and as fighting from this side would be disastrous to both forces the seat of battle has been removed to the southern portion of Iloilo and the

city of Molo, by mutual agreement. Molo is strongly fortified, much of it has been burned for clearings, and the streets are cut up with trenches. The presence of the gunboats (Spanish) in the harbours is the only serious impediment to the Filipinos. Their force numbers about 2,500 armed men with some ten thousand mixed natives, equipped with bolos, spears, and so on. The leaders are General Rios and Colonel Branbeis on the Spanish side, and Angel Cortez of the natives. A popular superstition is rife among the natives whereby they believe they will only die for three days, then to rise again in some other place; hence the bodies are not buried for three days. Among the Filipinos are four 600 lb cannon and four Maxims. The ammunition for the latter is very limited. The Spanish claim twenty-five cannon, eight of which are centimeter calibre. Both sides are throwing up fortifications in clear view and range, but, as was the case in Manila, the most skirmishing takes place at night. The cry of the Spanish and foreigners is the same as at Manila, viz., "will the Americans never come," etc. Reinforcements have been daily expected from the Caroline Islands and on Tuesday last, the 18th inst., one hundred and twenty-five Spanish recruits and soldiers came in. The total number expected is two hundred and fifty, who have been garrisoned at the Caroline Group.

Torches have been found in the principal houses of the city of Iloilo, among them being the English Club and the Bank and several residences; they are supposed to have been secreted there by the Spaniards, who in case the city is taken will retire to the Spanish ships and burn the city.

The ships in the harbour last week were the *Tacon XIII*, a Spanish mail steamer, and the *Gen. Alvara*, a troopship, the English gunboat *Flover*, and the German cruiser *Irene*. The bridge connecting the city with the mainland has been cut and it is generally admitted that if the Filipinos only knew their strength they would capture the city with but little loss.

Several hundred native soldiers who have been in the Spanish service were sent up to Manila to be discharged, as the Spanish feared their loyalty. The first batch managed to land without opposition; the second lot have not been allowed to leave the ship, which now lies in the harbour. The case is running the gauntlet of the American authorities and it is almost certain that landing will not be permitted. The poor fellows have absolutely nothing but little bundles of clothing tied up in their handkerchiefs to show for their two years or more of service.

A NEW REPUBLIC IN THE SOUTH.

It is reported on good authority that a new government called the Visayan Republic has been organized in the southern islands, and the following official proclamation has been issued, irrespective of Aguinaldo, Dewey, the United States, or any other country:—

President—Reque Lopez.

Vice-President—Vicente France.

Secretary of State—Ramon Tomaz Avanceno.

Lord Chief Justice—Ivito Tusai.

Secretary of Treasury—Venancio Concepcion.

And so on, right down through the entire list of chief Government officers. It is scarcely necessary to mention them all. The organization throughout is very crude and mixed. The military recognizes Martin Delgado as General-in-Chief; the division General, according to location, is Perfecto Pablador. A new tri-colored flag has been adopted and from under its folds the little nation boldly salutes the world, good, bad, and indifferent.

An interview with Aguinaldo on the subject was ineffectual, as the leader was indisposed, owing to strain of work. It is true that the ambitious successful General has a great amount of work, that has of late been leaving its signs upon him, as he is looking pale and worn and considerably older than when he was in Hongkong.

The American opinion of Aguinaldo and the Filipinos in general is daily improving. As the outcome of General Otis's suggestions, it has been given forth from Malolos that liberty will be extended to the Spanish prisoners of the Civil Service and those of the soldiers who are really sick. Such concessions, after the lively correspondence that has been going on between Otis and Aguinaldo, is rather a surprise. As

yet none of the released ones have been seen. It is rather strange that after Aguinaldo had apparently established his right to retain the prisoners he should so unexpectedly release them. It is to be hoped that the news is authentic and that the good work will be accomplished. Should it be so, this will only be one more example in a long list of acts on the part of the natives that shows clearly their reasonable position and human character.

THE NAVY.

Some days ago a telegram appeared in the papers stating that the American fleet was again to appear in white paint, but as yet nothing has been done toward this end. The *Raleigh* left for New York city via Suez on the morning of the 16th inst. She will reach her destination about the end of February unless her orders are changed.

In addition to the fast cruiser *Buffalo* that is now almost due, the *Yosemite* is expected to come to Manila, with stores and ammunition. She will escort two troopships carrying regulars who, it is expected, will relieve the Volunteers now on service in the Philippines.

OUTBREAK IN NORTH FORMOSA.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Taipeh, 19th December.

During the summer months this year, the leaders among the insurgents in North Formosa, at the solicitation of a Government commissioner, threw down their arms and swore allegiance to the Japanese Empire, and were afterwards engaged in road making and in cultivation of the savage border lands. Nearly all the other bandits were eventually captured or disappeared to avoid the vigilant search made for them by the authorities and for a few months disturbances ceased and harmony between the Government and the ex-insurgents apparently existed. The impression now prevailed in the north that we were rid of the troublesome pests and we were rather boastful of the peace and quietude existing while the south of the island was constantly disturbed by the banditti attacks.

Great astonishment, therefore, resulted on Sunday morning last (the 11th) when incessant gun reports echoing in the north hills reached Twatutia and three wounded police were seen being hurriedly carried on stretchers to the Twatutia Police Station. Soon rumours were about to the effect that serious fighting had occurred at Patchina, a small town only two miles to the north, but further details could not be obtained.

Towards evening an "extra" was issued by the Japanese paper published here which told us that it was Kwantaishi who had rebelled, thus breaking his promises to the authorities.

Kwantaishi, bandit leader, a second Yu Mantze, who lives in the north mountains, is a rough individual, as treacherous as he is daring. Although he made a pretence at surrendering to the authorities, he never could be persuaded to leave his mountain home. A short time ago various accounts describing his treacherous plans caused so much anxiety to the populace that the authorities were obliged to make an investigation. Accordingly the authorities demanded an interview with the intention of persuading him to remove to Patchina, where he could be more closely watched. Kwantaishi having consented to this, the interview was set for the evening of the 11th at Patchina. However, a few days preceding the appointed day reports from various sources confirmed the rumour that he was levying war funds on the rich people of Patchina and the authorities kept a sharp watch on him in consequence.

In addition to this about 300 insurgents suddenly attacked Jukirin Police Station on the night of the 10th and it was established beyond doubt that Kwantaishi was connected with the outrage. It is true that after his surrender the Government had treated him with the most exceptional leniency with a hope that he would become law-abiding, but now that their efforts had been of no avail, vigorous measures were to be adopted for his permanent removal from the hill districts. To accomplish this it was decided, in view of the large number of his followers, to call out the military. To prevent any of his band from escaping it was planned to surround them, and soldiers from

Taipeh and Tamsui were brought into the field for that purpose.

At daybreak on the 11th a party consisting of 16 men, led by some ex-rebels who acted as guides, started on a mission to communicate the Government order to Kwantaishi and to arrest him should he resist the Government's demands for his removal. When about half way to their destination the Japanese were fired upon by insurgents. This was taken as a signal for the military to come into action. Lieut. Colouel Umawatar, the Commander of the forces, having ordered a detachment to assault the insurgents' position upon a hilltop at the eastern end of Sozansho the Japanese first attacked the insurgents there and quickly captured the place. While the Japanese were advancing, another band of insurgents made their appearance on an adjacent hill side and, partially hidden by the underbrush, they poured down upon the Japanese a strong fire, but the Japanese pressed on and soon dislodged the enemy.

Advancing further was, however, found a more difficult task, the insurgents lying in ambush, occupying a very advantageous position from which the attacking party, who were obliged to ascend the mountain side along narrow and exposed pathways, found it difficult to drive them. Eventually, however, the enemy gave way, leaving their newly built fortifications to fall into the hands of the Japanese. The fighting lasted for two hours. From then on the rebels offered no opposition in that direction and the Japanese easily occupied Kwantaishi's headquarters.

In the midst of the hot skirmish there was proceeding at another point an engagement not so favourable to the Japanese. It was at the village of Sozansho, where was stationed a small Japanese force. They and some insurgents were exchanging fire over a creek when suddenly they found themselves surrounded by an overwhelming number of the enemy, whom they at first thought to be but a crowd of peaceful villagers. There was no hope of defeating so numerous an enemy and the detachment retreated, hotly followed by the insurgents, towards a position which the former knew to be occupied by a few artillerymen with two mountain guns. The artillery, upon sighting the Chinese, fired one shell at them, but it did not affect their advance in the least. The gunners now waited until the insurgents were in close range and then again fired and with such success that the shell burst right among the braves, killing a number of them and causing the others to scatter away like frightened deer towards the hills. But even there the unruly natives were not to find refuge, for detachments of troops stationed in the mountain passes fired upon them as they fled, and in one pathway alone thirty-eight were killed.

While the operations were very successful great disappointment was felt among the authorities that the head bandit, Kwantaishi, whose capture was the original object of the expedition, should escape. Among the insurgents 78 were killed with a loss on the Japanese side of two soldiers killed and several wounded. The insurgents, about 300 in number, consisted mostly of young men who exhibited some knowledge of military training and were good marksmen.

Early in the morning of the same day there was a skirmish on the opposite side of the Tamsui river between 160 insurgents and a police party from Twatutia resulting in a loss to the Japanese of three men wounded. Reinforcements were hastily despatched from the city, whereupon the insurgents fled towards Haisoanko, leaving eight men dead.

It is believed that the plan of the insurgents was to rise at once on both sides of the river on this day, but the military authorities were very happily able to nip the scheme in the bud. At present affairs in the immediate neighbourhood of the capital appear to have quieted down again, although travel along the Tamsui river to the port of Kobe is not considered safe and the country is in a much disturbed condition.

It had been intended by the Mas nic fraternity to give a bull this season, we understand, but the Craft having been thrown into mourning by the death of Right Wor. Bro. Lord Lathom, the Pro-Grand Master, the event will not take place.

MAJOR-GENERAL BLACK'S DEPARTURE.

PRESENTATION BY THE CHINESE COMMUNITY.

H.E. the late Acting Governor, Major-General Black, C.B., and Mrs. Black bade adieu to the colony of Hongkong on Saturday last, going homewards in the P. and O. mail steamer *Coromandel*. They will not arrive in England, however, until next May, their purpose being to visit Burma and other places in the meantime. The gallant General and his wife are not likely to forget their send-off. The scene which they witnessed on Murray Pier on Saturday at noon was one which will often recur to them, and must cause their hearts to warm towards this rocky island in the Far East. The Government launch *Victoria* was moored alongside Murry Pier at about a quarter-past eleven, at which time representatives of all classes of the community began to assemble. His Excellency the Governor, accompanied by Lieutenant Lee-Norman, A.D.C., appeared in good time, and was saluted by the Band and the Colour Company of the King's Own, which had taken up a position on the Praya. After exchanging greetings with a few ladies and gentlemen Sir Henry entered a man-of-war gig, which took him aboard the *Coromandel*, where many friends of General and Mrs. Black were already. Among the company on the pier, in addition to ladies, we noticed Admiral Seymour, Sir John Carrington (Chief Justice) the Hon. T. Sercombe Smith (Acting Colonial Secretary), the Hon. R. Murray Rumsey (Harbour Master), the Hon. F. H. May (Captain Superintendent of Police), the Hon. R. D. Ormsby (Director of Public Works), Hon. Ho Kai, Hon. Wei Yuk; Colonel the O'Gorman, Colonel Retallick and officers of the Hongkong Regiment; Lieut.-Colonel Rowlandson and officers of the King's Own Regiment; Colonel Evatt, Colonel Gorges, Mr. Justice Wise, Major Bower, Dr. Rieloff (German Consul), Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., Mr. C. S. Sharp, Mr. Hillier, Mr. R. M. Gray, Mr. Ho Tung, Mr. Ho Fook, and Mr. Fung Wa Chuen.

The General and his wife arrived at about a quarter to twelve, being received with a general salute by the Colour Company and a salute from the shore battery. Having inspected the troops, His Excellency addressed a few complimentary words to them and then bade them farewell, after which both he and Mrs. Black were kept busily engaged for some time shaking hands with the ladies and gentlemen who had come to bid them God-speed. This was interrupted for a few minutes, while an address was presented to His Excellency and some specimens of Chinese embroidery to Mrs. Black on behalf of the Chinese community of Hongkong. The address, which is the work of Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, is bound in blue plush with silver corner pieces of dragon design, and on a centre plate is the following inscription:—"Farewell address of the Chinese community of Hongkong to H.E. Major-General Wilsone Black, C.B., on his departure from the colony. Hongkong, December, 1898." After the presentation of the address there was more hand-shaking and then General and Mrs. Black went on board the *Victoria*. As the launch steamed away the Band played "Auld Lang Syne," hats and handkerchiefs were waved, and, as we have said before, the scene was one which the gallant General and his wife are not likely to forget. The General himself was evidently deeply touched.

Reverting to the presentation, it was handed to the General by

Hon. HO KAI, who said—Sir, I have the honour, on behalf of the Chinese community of Hongkong, to present to you an address which I hope you will kindly accept. The address, drafted first in Chinese by the Chinese themselves, and afterwards translated into English, is the spontaneous outcome of an intense feeling of respect and admiration for your Excellency on their part, and supports in a marked manner what I stated in Council the other day, that the Chinese fully appreciated your Excellency's able and wise administration of the government and that the only regret they had was that it was all too short. This presentation will, I believe, form an interesting event in the

history of this colony, and show that our Chinese fellow citizens can and do appreciate a vigorous, just, and benign Government. (Applause.) During the ten months that have just passed away your Excellency administered the Government with great energy, kindness, and wisdom, and that administration, short though it be, has given rise to universal satisfaction and admiration amongst all classes of this mixed community. (Applause.) To express their admiration and gratitude, therefore, the Chinese residents have requested me to present this address for your kind acceptance, and in addition to present two pieces of Chinese embroidery for the gracious acceptance of Mrs. Black. The embroidery has no great intrinsic value, but simply serves as a token of respect and esteem on the part of the Chinese for a lady who has by her kindness and gentleness attracted so much affection and admiration to herself. (Applause.) We hope you will have a pleasant voyage home, and that your distinguished ability will get you further promotion, and that you will be entrusted by your Government with a higher administrative post in one of the important possessions of Her Majesty's dominions. (Applause.) I will now call upon Mr. Fung Wa Chuen, one of the ablest and most public-spirited among the leading Chinese, to read the address in English.

Mr. FUNG WA CHUEN read the address, which was in the following terms:—

"The Respectful Address of the Chinese Community of Hongkong, presented to His Excellency, Major-General WILSON BLACK, C.B., in recognition of His Able Administration.

"Hongkong, 24th December, 1898.

"YOUR EXCELLENCY,

"When on the 25th day of last November, Your Excellency vacated the office of Acting Governor of Hongkong you had held the post for barely ten months, but even in that short time measures have been taken entitled by their importance and their merit to be placed on permanent record.

"In the supervision of the various branches of the Government, in the promotion of the people's welfare, in the advancement of trade and commerce, and in the encouragement of local industries Your Excellency's diligence and tact have been conspicuous, and no words of ours can adequately express our admiration and our gratitude for the tranquil prosperity which we thereby obtained during your administration.

"The impartial consideration extended by you to all classes has been particularly marked in the case of the Chinese and more especially during the recent epidemic. This you met with calmness and judgment, and the measures which you took with the approbation of the whole community were, under the blessing of Heaven, finally successful and the means of saving countless lives. Had it not been for Your Excellency's sympathy and energy such good results could not have been obtained, and that is why up to this day your praises have not ceased to be sung.

"Your Excellency has been too broadminded to affect to despise public opinion, and you have always been ready to consult it when you were desirous of effecting improvements in the administration or in the condition of the people.

"Without fear of adverse criticism Your Excellency might have confined yourself to the routine work of Government, but you were not content to rest satisfied as long as improvement was possible.

"The perpetual preservation of the historical spot known as 'The Watch Tower of the King of Sung' will recall to the mind of future visitors that wherever Your Excellency's sway has extended you have left some mark of your benevolence.

"We respectfully present this address to Your Excellency in token of our gratitude and admiration. We trust that all good fortune may attend you in the future, and that in the enjoyment of every blessing that heart can wish and with increased honours you may attain a happy old age.

"These are our earnest prayers and we hope that Your Excellency will graciously condescend to accept our address."

Major-General BLACK said—Dr. Ho Kai, Mr. Wei Yuk, and members of the Chinese community, I deeply feel your kindness in bidding me farewell in this public manner. I think one

often uses the word "feel"—and I have done so myself—without absolutely feeling as I do now, because it is only those who depart who can feel the true ring of sorrow. I feel deeply this, because after forty-five years' service I am now to lay by my uniform for ever. I have been very fortunate and been rewarded beyond my merits, but I still have a lingering desire to continue to serve, but that is impossible. Therefore, I leave Hongkong with some degree of sadness, and the sadness has been increased by the very kindly farewells offered to me. You have appreciated what I have done far too highly, but there is one thing that is true—I am no respecter of persons. I hold an honest man, a trustworthy man, be his colour or nationality what it may, he is as worthy as one sprung from my own race. But this is not a time for speaking; sometimes one's heart is too full for speech. I feel so now, and I thank you sincerely from the bottom of my heart.

Dr. HO KAI called for three cheers for Major-General and Mrs. Black, which were heartily given.

Major-General BLACK—I forgot to thank you on behalf of my wife for your kind remembrance of her. We did not need this to recall your kind remembrance of us, but when we see it on our table it will always remind us of the kind farewell you have given us.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR AT THE V.R.C.

PRESENTATION OF THE REGATTA PRIZES.

His Excellency the Governor (Sir Henry Blake) visited the premises of the Victoria Recreation Club on Saturday afternoon for the purpose of presenting the prizes to the successful competitors at the Regatta, together with a silver tea set to Captain Borland, of the British ship *Kensington*, who so kindly placed his vessel at the disposal of the promoters of the Regatta as flag-ship. Commander Hastings acted as chairman, and he was supported by Mr. W. Hutton Potts, Captain Rogers, Mr. E. D. Sanders, Mr. Denison, and Mr. W. S. Bailey (hon. sec.)

Commander HASTINGS, in opening the proceedings, said—Your Excellency, on behalf of the members of the Victoria Recreation Club permit me to offer you a hearty welcome to the Club, and to thank you publicly for having accepted the Presidentship. You have seen from the programme this is the 42nd Regatta held under the auspices of the Victoria Recreation Club. As things go therefore in the colony we may be considered a venerable institution, and doubtless you have observed, Sir, that our style of architecture is more that of the early settlers with an admixture of the yet more ancient Chinese or bamboo order, rather than that of the adjacent buildings the Hongkong Club and Messrs. Butterfield and Swire's premises. We have, however, consistently been the promoters of all branches of sport, athletics and athletics without distinction, and as a cosmopolitan club untrammelled by any considerations of class, clique, creed, or condition. (Hear, hear.) We hold three meetings annually—in the spring athletic sports; at midsummer aquatic sports; and in December a regatta. As the colony has grown other clubs have sprung up devoted to special sports. Cricket, the great English game, has of course always flourished, and football is more played of recent years. Kowloon is now a great suburb, so it is only natural they should have their own rowing club. Quarry Bay is a small town and community in itself, and they have their own athletic club in very cordial relations with ours. (Hear, hear.) The V.R.C. is, however, the *alma mater* of them all, and we welcome each and all to our varied competitions. For some 40 odd years the club has been located on this spot. It has passed through many vicissitudes. As a boating and bathing club we take quite as lively an interest in typhoons as the shipping community. In 1874 B.M.S. gunboat *Opossum* came through the bath and dropped in socially into the Boat House. (Laughter.) We represented it to the then Commodore as a breaking and entering, delicately hinting at compensation. (Laughter.) It was, however, decided that we had decoyed and enticed and then harboured and concealed the *Opossum*.

and the President of that day was fortunate in not being prosecuted for all sorts of misdemeanours. (Laughter.) Nothing of that sort will, however, we trust, Sir, happen during your term of Presidency, as owing to the kind offices of Commodore Holland, our staunch friend, and the Commander-in-chief we hope to be located in the future on the Admiralty reclamation just north of this spot, when we trust to be enabled to erect premises worthy of the colony and the good this club does. (Hear, hear.) We number now some 425 members, and we should be glad to include amongst them, as used to be the case until comparatively recently, large numbers of the officers of the Garrison, more of the Naval officers (though they especially of late years have been very uncertain of their time here), and more of the Civil Servants. Successors are not coming forward as they should to Lockhart, Travers, Master, MacEwen, Potts, Leigh, and many others whose names are to be read in letters of gold on the boards outside. (Hear, hear.) There are doubtless fashions in sports as in bonnets, and it cannot be disguised that rowing is not as strongly supported now as it was in the seventies and eighties. The English claim to be a race of Athletes, yet not a crew turned out in the International for the honour of St. George and to carry the Rose to the fore; albeit a large fleet is lying in the harbour. Hongkong is a British colony, though it might more properly be described as a Scottish settlement. A stranger in the street would hardly be wrong in accosting any white man as "Mac"—(laughter);—if he did not answer "Mein Herr" would be the next best cue; if that also failed the stranger would be safe in substituting "Don" and find he was speaking to a gentleman from Portugal or Macao. Yet only two of these great sections of the community did battle for the International Cup. Your own countrymen, Sir, of whom there are many more in the colony than in former years, and who are popularly supposed to be always ready for any "divarshion," from a row in the House of Commons to a brawl at a fair, have this year failed to fight for the fair fame of the "Shamrock." On the other hand the members of the Lusitano Club, recognizing how their countrymen are coming to the fore in all sports, have generously presented a cup which is to become an annual event on the same lines as the German Cup. Latterly, as steam supersedes sails, curiously enough the sailing races have become a more pronounced feature in our regattas. In all times, in all professions, at all places, one hears of the "good old days," that "the service is now going to the dogs." Fortunately for us we have still some relics of antiquity of the old race of giants lingering in the Committee; it is good for us to have them, they keep us humble and meek, teaching us that we pigmies are reaping what they, the old heroes, wrought for those prizes when the people of Hongkong were accustomed to witness the Homeric struggles of the "old days." We trust, Sir, under your Presidentship a new era of prosperity and keen competition will be inaugurated rivalling and outshining the ancient glories of the past, and that a new Club house worthy of that prowess will rise like the phoenix from the ruins of this old shanty on the concrete blocks of the Admiralty reclamation. (Applause.)

HIS EXCELLENCY, after one or two preliminary observations, said—It is natural that the amusement of rowing nowadays, when it has to compete with so many other amusements such as bicycling, polo, cricket, and lawn tennis, should not be so popular as in days gone by. At the same time there is no more valuable amusement to a community than that of rowing. It can be partaken of by one or two or four men, whilst in cricket and in football and in polo you require a considerable number, and consequently the expense is much greater. I hope the Club will be as prosperous in the future as in the days of yore; that the present state of depression will soon give way to a more prosperous condition, and that you will find in the various communities of the different countries you have complained of abstaining from the regatta a disposition to come forward. (Hear, hear.) So far as my own countrymen are concerned I can quite understand the reason they have stood aloof. As a rule they are not very fond of water unless there is a little whisky in it. (Laughter.) How-

ever, I hope that next year we shall have one or two English crews and perhaps one or two Irish crews competing. (Hear, hear.) There is nothing more enjoyable than a good well-contested race. I congratulate the Club upon its sailing races, one which I witnessed being as good a race as anyone could wish to see. I was very sorry that at the critical point the junks intervened, but all the same it was one of the closest races I have ever seen. I hope you will have better luck next time in this respect, that the winners of this year will be stimulated to better efforts next year, and that the magnificent collection of trophies which I see before me will encourage other people to compete. (Applause.)

HIS EXCELLENCY then distributed the prizes. In handing to Commander Hastings the first prize for one of the sailing races he said there had been some misconception with regard to it. It had not been given by Commodore Holland exclusively but also by the officers of the Navy, and he was quite sure the Commodore and the officers of the Navy would be well satisfied that an old brother officer had won it and won it well. (Applause.)

In presenting the tea set to Captain Borland, His Excellency said that the captain had not won a race, but all the same he had contributed largely to the success of the regatta, and he as President of the Club had great pleasure on behalf of the Club in asking him to receive a small token of their appreciation of his kindness.

Captain BORLAND said he was extremely grateful to them for their magnificent gift. His wife would highly appreciate it as coming from Hongkong. Should he be in the harbour on the occasion of the regatta next year his ship would again be at their service. (Applause.) Three cheers and a "tiger" having been given for His Excellency the proceedings terminated.

THE NAVY LEAGUE.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE HONGKONG BRANCH.

The annual general meeting of the Hongkong branch of the Navy League was held in the Chamber of Commerce Room at the City Hall on the 28th Dec. Commander Hastings presided, and he was supported by Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., Mr. M. W. Slade (hon. sec.), Mr. R. Cooke, Mr. H. A. Ritchie, Mr. G. Stewart, and Captain Tillet. There were also present Messrs. T. Jackson, J. G. W. King, E. W. Mitchell, F. Henderson, Ng Kwai Shang, H. W. Wolfe, F. Smythe, D. Craddock, A. J. May, A. McConachie, H. E. Pallock, R. Mitchell, S. E. Bird, J. Barton, H. Wickham, C. Mooney, J. M. Underwood, B. Layton, G. W. F. Playfair, A. Sinclair, G. C. Anderson, Burnie, Goddard, W. Danby, M. Stewart, J. W. Hanson, W. Hutton Potts, G. P. Lammert, Burnie, Hill, and Skinner.

THE CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen: Before asking you to pass our report, which, having now been some time in your hands I trust you will take as read, I desire to add a few words to the very full and clear statement of our late honorary secretary. Firstly as to the financial state of our branch, you will note the large increase in our numbers, notwithstanding which we are only a hundred dollars better off than when we last presented a statement of accounts to you. We have so many new members that for their benefit I may as well tell you that in January last we abolished the \$10 entrance fee. In Great Britain to be a member of the Navy League costs a guinea a year; here, we have reduced the subscription to \$5, remitting however all the same 5/3 a head to the parent association. Associates fees have also been reduced to \$2, of which 1/3 has to be remitted to London. Last year our printing bill was \$12; this year it was \$231.50. Last year we paid \$40 and this year \$120 for prizes to Schools. Last year telegrams cost us \$22, this year \$221.60, \$3.18 of which was, however, repaid by the head office. Last year we remitted to London \$204.89; this year our dues amounted to \$594.45. To-day we number 272 members and 56 associates, as against 93 members and 20 associates at our last annual meeting on the 3rd December, 1897. Gentlemen, your committee have reduced the fees to the limit of working expenses, so that practically there should be no

bar but apathy to the enrolling of the whole of the adult British civil male population of the colony in the Navy League. We have succeeded in capturing about half. Your committee have spent for the education of their fellow nationals, i.e., in printing, of your funds \$231.50 this year, as against \$12 last, or about 1,825 per cent. more. For here in China there have not been wanting object lessons to illustrate the teachings of the League and point their morals, bringing them home to us in a manner scarcely possible in Britain short of famine, which may God forbid. If in an intelligent moderately educated middle class community like that of this colony such expenditure is requisite to effect these results, pro rata how much would the League have to spend at home to enlighten the masses? In the spring of 1897, 462 British subjects in the colony signed a protest deprecating any reduction of the Navy Estimates, yet large numbers of those men have not joined our League, the only Association that enables them to voice what they alleged then were their honest convictions. Gentlemen, we are not children or members of a mutual admiration society; it is therefore idle to blink the fact that in a British community like that of Hongkong, till your Committee can represent to the head office in London that the civil community is unanimous the field has not been worked to its utmost extent. We earnestly hope that during the coming year every Leaguer will bring round at least one more man to a sense of his duty. Let him be as idle or as apathetic as he likes once he has been enrolled. "He that is not for me is against me." Amongst one section of the community our efforts have been singularly unsuccessful and barren of results, and that in a section where such ill success might least be looked for. I mean amongst the seafaring community. If to any one class of men more than to another should be patent the paramount necessity for a strong navy to Britain it would apparently be to the mercantile marine officers. They have grievances; therefore for them to deny their support to the very Association which is working for the removal of those grievances can only be the result of misapprehension—misapprehension which many of our members are well fitted and peculiarly favourably situated for dispelling. Overspreading the earth and honey-combing as they do the navigable globe the good the mercantile marine officers could do in diffusing knowledge would be incalculable. Were two or three of our journals to go out in every British ship leaving Hongkong they would be doing immeasurable service to their country in conveying a just appreciation of the needs of and duties being discharged by the British Navy to their countrymen in all the ends of the earth, knowledge that could not fail to be reflected and react on our countrymen at home. One more reference to our balance-sheet, and I have done. The money remitted to the sufferers by the Norfolk boating disaster was not sent by your committee from the funds of this branch. It was the proceeds of a spontaneous subscription made up of money—some very small amounts—and forwarded through the Hon. Secretary. At our annual meeting last year Captain Anderson suggested that some of our members should give lectures, and gave us a practical illustration of what he recommended in a most excellent address on the 31st January last, followed by Mr. Machell on the 21st February. The two papers were printed and circulated. On April the 18th Mr. Francis gave a most interesting lecture to a crowded meeting upon "Mahan's Life of Nelson and the lessons to be drawn therefrom." The letter from this branch dated 10th January last referred to in the report was published by the head office in all the great papers in Britain, and without being unduly self-laudatory, we may fairly congratulate ourselves on having been the channel through which our countrymen were enlightened as to the necessity for the Kowloon extension. This single instance illustrates the value of our Association. Able men had for years been advocating this extension. Doubtless their efforts had in great measure paved the way for—if I may say so—our success. A Department of State, a few individuals—old China hands—were aware of its desirability—necessity—under

changed modern conditions of warfare. For years individuals had pegged away, and unquestionably prepared the ground, familiarised the Government with the subject, but it was a pegging that might have continued for generations. The time was ripe, though many held also that it was inopportune—a joining in the game of grab. Our League was able to turn on the avalanche of instructed public opinion, and what had been for years apparently insurmountable barriers were overwhelmed and disappeared. (Hear, hear.) It is true, as our report shows, that the success has not been so complete and unqualified as was desired. Unexpected and unpalatable conditions have attached to it; how unsavoury and unwholesome your Committee have vigorously pointed out to the executive of the League, and we may rest assured that such steps as can be will be taken by them to render the extension all that it was desired and intended to be. (Hear, hear.) Owing to the increase in membership, your committee decided to form the Leaguers into groups of friends and neighbours, men in more or less intimate relations, with the view of facilitating the circulation of League literature, to invite comment and criticism, and suggestions for the welfare of the League in general, and the branch in particular, and to endeavour to induce a greater personal interest in the League and in the working of the branch. It is an invitation to all members and associates to offer suggestions and supply information to the committee. The committee would be glad if a few more members would volunteer to act as group leaders. We have now 15 groups. At our last annual meeting, when referring to the necessity of the re-enactment of the Contagious Diseases Act, I stated that there was a reasonable prospect that the old checks that had been found to work so salutarily in the past would be reverted to. I regret to say that now, a year later, those prospects are more remote. Your committees have represented to the central body that no caste or racial prejudices are affected here—apart from direct results. The old law was appreciated by the natives as being the immediate cause of rescuing numbers of women who had been kidnapped. The addition of two battleships to the squadron in the East since last year is a source of satisfaction, especially when we consider that we are only a portion of Britain's world-wide responsibilities. (Hear, hear.) Within the last year we have heard seductive proposals for general disarmament accompanied, unfortunately, however, by the most colossal naval programmes of the fast closing century. When deeds synchronise with words our League can relax its efforts, but until that day, and not until that day, it must be our duty to endeavour to awaken and to keep our countrymen awake and alive to the necessity of maintaining a navy superior to any combination that may be formed against us. (Hear, hear.) In concluding, gentlemen, your committee, whilst expressing their regret that Mr. Pollock is unable to continue his Hon. Secretaryship, desires most emphatically to record their hearty thanks for the able, courteous, energetic, and tactful manner in which he has carried out his duties, a manner that has contributed so very materially to the success of this branch in the past year. (Applause.) With regard to Mr. Pollock's reasons for resigning I ask leave to make a personal explanation. I also am a Civil Servant, and some months ago asked the Officer Administering the Government if I might properly retain the position you were good enough to place me in. He informed me there was no reason why I should resign. This aptly illustrates (please to remember the references to beauty are strictly metaphorical) the difference between the ornamental figure head and the working head. The working head has resigned and Mr. Slade has kindly consented to take his place. I will ask you now to pass our report, the adoption of which I beg to propose.

Mr. FRANCIS, in seconding the adoption of the report, said he rose to do so for this special reason—to call their special attention to the fact that Captain Hastings, in moving the adoption of the report and in addressing them that evening, had not been willing to say anything in reference to the work he himself had done for the Association. He had seen something of what Mr. Pollock had done and what Captain Hastings had done

and he desired to bear his testimony to the good work Captain Hastings had done as chairman of the Association, and to say that the thanks of the Association were due not only to Mr. Pollock, but to Captain Hastings for the progress the Association had made during the year. (Applause.)

The report was adopted.

Mr. MCCONACHIE said he was sure they were all very much satisfied with the work of the committee during the year, and he did not think they could do better than propose their re-election. He, therefore, proposed that Captain Hastings (president), Messrs. J. J. Francis (vice-president), H. E. Pollock, E. W. Mitchell, H. A. Ritchie, R. Shewan, G. Stewart, Capt. Tillett, and Mr. M. W. Slade (hon. secretary and treasurer), be re-elected.

Mr. PLAYFAIR seconded, and the motion was carried.

The CHAIRMAN observed that Mr. A. M. Marshall was one of the members of the committee last year, but he was going to Singapore in March, or otherwise no doubt his name would have been included.

Mr. T. JACKSON, in proposing a vote of thanks to the retiring honorary secretary, said that in a society of that kind the secretary practically did all the clerical work. He did not wish to deprecate the work the chairman had done, but he thought Mr. Pollock was the man who had taken more labour upon his shoulders than any one else in connection with the branch. (Hear, hear.)

The CHAIRMAN said he had great pleasure in seconding that. He had had as much to do with Mr. Pollock as anyone during the past year, and Mr. Pollock had kept him straight most efficiently.

The motion was passed with acclamation, and Mr. Pollock having said a few words of thanks in reply, the proceedings terminated.

NAUTICAL BURLESQUE AT THE THEATRE ROYAL.

PERFORMANCE BY THE "POWERFUL" DRAMATIC COMPANY.

First Lord of the Admiralty	A J. Lintern
Capt. Makit Warmer, R.N.	{ A martinet } J. Compton and maritime reformer
Lieut. De Robinson-Brown-Smith-Jones	{ A wicked 1st Luff } Mr. W. Sims
Gabriel Groggub	{ Landlord of the Cat Head } Sergt. Wells
President of Court Martial	R.M.L.I.
Capt. of the "Non-such"	Sergt. Wells
" " " "Triton"	G. Sageman
" " " "Horrible"	J. M. Smith
Deputy Judge Advocate	S. Brown
Officer of the Court	S. Sadler
1st Blue Jacket	H. White
2nd " "	J. Dawson
3rd " "	J. Whiting
4th " "	J. Bowes
Corporal of Marines	G. Chrystal
Signalman	F. Ross
Boatswain's Mate	A. Ingersoll
Hannibal Snell	E. Davies
Timothy Slack, A.B.	{ An honest tar in love with Hannah } R. Atlee
Hannah Snell	{ Barmaid at the Cat Head } W. Haynes —The pride of Gosport Hard and afterwards a private in Royal Marines
Miss Fore Stay	T. Saunders
Miss Main Stay	A. Denny
Miss Back Stay	C. Barham
Wm. O'Shea	W. Oldfield
Thos. O'Connor	J. Davis
M. O. Flannaghan	F. Rose

On Monday evening at the Theatre Royal the dramatic company of H.M.S. *Powerful* appeared in a nautical burlesque of three acts entitled "H.M.S. *Missfire*, or Change Rounds," the proceeds being in aid of the naval charities. There was a large attendance. Every seat in the dress circle had been bespoken, whilst downstairs dozens of persons had to content themselves with standing room. Among these before whom the company had the honour of performing were Prince and Princess Henry of Prussia, Lord Charles Beresford, M.P., Admiral Seymour, Lady Blake, Major-General Gascoigne, and Sir John Carrington.

The story, the period of which is in the middle of the 18th century, deals with the love affairs of an honest tar who goes by the commonplace name of Timothy Slack, and Hannah Snell, the buxom barmaid of the Cat Head.

The first scene represents the exterior of the Cat Head, Gosport Hard, Portsmouth. A number of sailors are seated at different tables, imbibing from capacious flagons copious draughts of "nut brown" and discussing the approaching wedding of their shipmate and "the pride of Gosport Hard." One of them calls to mind the adage that "There's many a slip 'twixt the cup and the lip," and it transpires that Timothy has been absent from ship without leave for several days and is thus liable to be seized and thrown into durance vile. That such a calamity may be avoided all his shipmates are anxious, but Gabriel Groggub, the well-fed landlord of the Cat Head, and Lieutenant De Robinson-Brown-Smith-Jones are Timothy's evil geni. Groggub is perturbed at the idea of losing the girl, the bear at the Cat Head, apparently, not being good enough of itself to draw custom, whilst the Lieutenant, an amorous old salt, has his eye on Hannah herself. Meeting her alone outside the inn he ogles her in the most approved fashion, and endeavours to entice her from her love by saying that "Timothy will only go abroad and leave you here; you had better come straight to me, my dear." His blandishments, however, fall on a deaf ear, and he accordingly waxes wroth and swears to be revenged. He knows that Timothy is staying at the Cat Head, and is also aware of his delinquency, so he conceives a plan of having him arrested, so that the day which should have seen him married would see him safe and sound in the guard room on board his ship. Groggub becomes a party to the conspiracy, which for the time being works out successfully. While the lovers and their friends are enjoying a song and dance the Lieutenant appears on the scene followed by the picket, and "pointing his bony finger" at Timothy tells them that there is their man. Thus ends the first Act. In Act 2 we are introduced to the quarter-deck of H. M. S. *Missfire*, the sailors being busily engaged in cleaning the decks and polishing the metal, for in the eyes of the Captain to leave a speck of dust on deck is a heinous offence. The first Lieutenant, being a man troubled with chronic biliousness, makes his appearance, and out of "pure cussedness" determines to make the men wait half-an-hour longer than usual for dinner. Such a prospect causes consternation among the hungry tars, who, led by Timothy, at once have their revenge by damaging the paint with the view of injuring the Lieutenant in the eyes of their fastidious Captain. During the hubbub the Captain appears and is struck dumb by what meets his gaze. Everywhere the erstwhile beautifully-painted woodwork is one mass of patches. Sternly he enquires for the offender. Timothy is brought forward and placed under arrest. Thus ends Act 2. The first scene in Act 3 shows the Court-Martial room, where Timothy is sentenced to death, and in the next we see the cells with the sentry walking to and fro. The sentry is twin brother to Hannah, and they are so much alike that even their own mother could hardly tell "th' tother fro which." Taking advantage of this resemblance Hannah has persuaded her brother to hand over his charge to her, and she accordingly appears in the full rig of a marine. She releases Timothy from his cell and they arrange to make a bid for freedom during the hubbub caused by the expected visit of the Admiral, the susceptible Lieutenant to be kept out of the way by some Southsea girls who had come aboard for the purpose. At first all works well, and the pair are on the point of clearing away when the Lieutenant spies them and commands them to be brought forward. At this point the Admiral appears and opportunely recognises Timothy as the man who had saved his life a few days before. He enquires into the charge against his preserver, and the nefarious dealings of the wicked old Lieutenant coming to light that worthy is deprived of his rank, a blow which causes his complete collapse, whilst the honest tar whose downfall he has schemed for is promoted and, what is more, has not his wedding day delayed after all.

Throughout the piece songs and dances were introduced and so much were these appreciated that encores were frequent though, of course, many of them could not be responded to. Several local hits were introduced, that much-abused institution the Hong-

Hong Post-Office coming in for a few hard knocks, one of the jokes at its expense having reference to a letter from the city to the Peak which was a week before it reached its destination. The desecration of Glenealy was also touched upon. Then at the end of a topical song by Mr. A. J. Lintern (who impersonated the "First Lord of the Admiralty") came the following reference to Prince Henry, a reference which was received with loud applause:—

One word before I end my song,
To welcome here in far Hongkong,
A descendant of our gracious Queen,
The Sailor Prince, of course, I mean.
We welcome him! may he always be
Found playing with the Royal Navee.

The performance concluded with a number of tableaux representative of the death of Nelson, during which Bandsman F. K. Watkins gave as a cornet solo the popular song dealing with the same subject. The tableaux were most realistic; whoever had the arranging of them is to be congratulated on the success of his efforts. Indeed the whole performance was exceedingly creditable to all concerned and showed that Lieut. Streatfield (the manager) and Mr. W. Sims (the stage manager) had done everything they possibly could to ensure success. No body of amateurs could have been brought to such a state of perfection without long and careful preparation. The scenery, an important matter in such a performance, was designed by Mr. J. Edward, Fleet Engineer, whose work gave the greatest satisfaction. Special mention should also be made of Bandmaster Schofield, by whom the music, which could not have been more appropriate, was arranged and written. Mr. Rea was accompanist.

With regard to the performers in the burlesque, Mr. W. Sims, as Lieutenant de Robinson-Brown-Smith-Jones, occupied a prominent place. He thoroughly identified himself with the part, being excruciatingly funny. Sergeant Wells as Gabriel Groggub was also very amusing. The part of the fastidious Captain Warner could not have been in better hands than those of Mr. J. Compton. As the hero and heroine Mr. R. Atlee and Mr. W. Haynes were a great success, and Mr. A. J. Lintern (the secretary of the company) as First Lord of the Admiralty should also be mentioned.

The total receipts amounted to nearly \$1,000.

HONGKONG ODD-VOLUMES SOCIETY.

OPENING CONCERT.

The members of the Hongkong Odd-Volumes Society celebrated the opening of the season by giving a concert in the City Hall on the 22nd December. There was a large audience. Great care had evidently been taken in the drawing up of the programme. The items could hardly have been improved upon for the occasion, and they were neither too numerous nor too few.

Of the eight performers four were ladies, viz., Mrs. Bathgate, Mrs. Buttanshaw, Miss Murray Bain, and Miss Gaspar. Mrs. Buttanshaw appeared first. She sang the pretty song by Luigi Caracciolo entitled "Unless," her sweet notes and charm of expression pleasing her hearers much. Miss Murray Bain was in splendid voice, and was thus able to do full justice to Buck's "When the heart is young," of which she gave a most admirable rendering. Miss Gaspar was down for "La Serenata" (Tosti), and "For the sake of the Past" (mattei), and it is not invidious to say that her contributions were the feature of the evening. She has a voice of considerable power and range and she manages it well. On being recalled for an exquisite rendering of "La Serenata" she gave a pleasing interpretation of the homely and ever popular song "The broken pitcher." Her singing of her second piece was no less successful. Mrs. Bathgate was loudly applauded for a pianoforte solo, "Des Abends Grillen" (Schumann).

Of the gentlemen Mr. C. H. Grace was to the fore, giving two songs, "Ritournelle" (Chaminade) and "Fair is my love" (Hatton), both of which were most effectively sung. His first song was especially well appreciated, the audience making it clear that they would have been glad of an encore. Mr. E. L. Hunter and Mr. F. Percy Harrold were the other gentlemen vocalists, the former contribut-

ing "I'll sing thee songs of Araby" (Clay) and the latter "An old garden" (Hope Temple). A recital, "The postman's story," by Mr. H. E. Pollock, was a pleasant variation.

CHRISTMAS DAY ON BOARD H.M.S. "VICTORIOUS."

Christmas Day is a time to which Britishers look forward, either as an occasion for family gatherings or festivity. Our soldiers and sailors, especially those in foreign lands and waters, make it an occasion of the latter, and right well do they carry it out, at least they did on board H.M.S. *Victorious*. This huge vessel on Christmas Day looked more like a fancy confectioner's shop than a battleship; no matter where one cast his eyes he saw nothing but decorations of all descriptions, and on every mess table were piled up puddings, cakes, sweets, and fruit, giving full evidence that "Jack" had contributed his dollar. Through the kind invitation of Commander W. W. Hewett our representative was enabled to go the rounds of the ship with the Commander, his officers and guests at noon. On leaving the wardroom the party was joined by a small band, those composing it being dressed in all kinds of fancy and coloured costumes. At the entrance to the messes the Commander was greeted with a hearty cheer, and his attention called to a placard upon which was printed the words "Success to the Captain and officers." Right through this mess deck the bluejackets were lined up as thick as bees and almost at every step plates of good Christmas cheer were offered. Placards with funny and witty inscriptions were posted here and there, the contents of which caused much laughter. At the end of the mess deck a dummy sailor was rigged up, but a notice gave the following warning: "Please do not go near as he is savage." The chief petty officers had erected a cosy room with flags and a very pretty "V.R." lighted with coloured lights, added enchantment. The fore-castle was the next place visited and the popularity of the Commander on board was again shown by repeated cheers from the crew. A placard here caused much amusement. It read: "House to let; suitable for persons of a timid disposition; no extra charge for shower baths or eruptions; present tenant desirous of a change. Chain-locker Cottages." The stokers, as well as wishing the Commander the compliments of the season, cheered Mr. Moore, the Fleet Engineer, who is also very popular on board. The petty officers' mess looked well indeed, and over a long table loaded with viands of every description the Commander made an appropriate speech. In turn the artificers' mess, the sick-bay, casemate mess, and the marines' mess were visited. In the latter several rifles were made to stand on their butts, and on the bayonet of each was placed a loaf of bread, and a card underneath announced it to be "the staff of life on the point of death." The ship's band discoursed various musical selections whilst the party went round the ship. Just after one o'clock all sat down to tiffin. The crew indulged in all kinds of games during the remainder of the day and evening, and spent a good time generally.

All the other vessels in harbour were decorated. One noticeable feature was a "Merry Christmas," green on white, which stretched from mast to mast on board the survey boat *Waterwitch*.

POLO.

The final tie for the Hon. F. H. May's end was played on Friday between the Navy and the Royal Artillery, and ended in a victory for the latter by 8 goals and 4 subs. to 3 goals and 2 subs. The teams were:—

ROYAL NAVY	ROYAL ARTILLERY.
Comdr. Ethelston	1 Mr. Hudson.
Capt. Smith-Dorrien	2 Capt. Simmonds.
Capt. The Hon. Hedworth Lambton.	3 Mr. Loring.
Rear Admiral H.R.H. Prince Henry of Prussia.	4 Capt. Burney.

A demand having set in at Canton for Hongkong copper cents those coins are now at a premium.

CRICKET.

UNITED SERVICES V. HONGKONG C.O.
Played on Saturday and Monday. Scores:—

THE CLUB.		THE CLUB.	
First Innings.	Second Innings.	First Innings.	Second Innings.
T. Sercombe Smith, b White 22	b Lethbridge 11		
H. Hancock, c Egerton, b Vallings 18	c sub., b Vallings 110		
A. G. Ward, b Vallings 1	c White, b Vallings 21		
A. R. Lowe, b White 4	b Bedwell 19		
C. M. G. Burnie, run out 0	at Egerton, b White 1		
E. Mast, c Wall, b Vallings 20	absent 1		
P. A. Cox, b White 3	b White 14		
Dr. Atkinson, c Strong, b Vallings 1	c Strong, b Vallings 4		
W. H. Howard, c Jellicoe, b Vallings 12	c Lethbridge, b Vallings 19		
K. W. Mounsey, c and b Vallings 8	b Powlett 1		
J. H. Mody, not out 1	not out 4		
Byes 4	Byes 9		
94	222		

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

First Innings.					
Overs.	Maid.	Runs.	Wides.	NB.	Wickets.
Vallings 18.3	6	43	—	—	6
J Strong 5	1	16	—	—	—
White 11	2	29	—	—	3
Lethbridge 2	1	2	—	—	—
Second Innings.					
Vallings 21	4	54	—	—	4
Lethbridge 20	5	83	—	—	1
White 7	1	24	—	—	2
Bedwell 7	1	30	—	—	1
Powlett 11.3	4	22	—	—	1

UNITED SERVICES.

H. Bedwell, R.N., b Lowe	58
G. D. Campbell, H.K.R., c Cox, b Burnie	41
Lt. Powlett, R.N., c Mody, b Lowe	111
Capt. Langhorne, R.A., b Hancock	89
J. Strong, R.M.L.I., b Lowe	1
Lt. Lethbridge, K.O.R., c and b Hancock	10
Capt. Jellicoe, R.N., b Hancock	8
Lt. White, R.N., not out	16
Mr. Wall, R.N., b Hancock	5
Rev. G. R. Vallings } did not bat *	
Lt. Egerton, R.N. }	
Extras	21

Total 360

* Innings closed.

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

Overs.	Maid.	Runs.	Wides.	N.B.	Wickets.
S. Smith 24	3	105	—	—	—
Howard 13	6	22	—	—	—
Lowe 28	6	96	—	—	3
Mast 4	1	10	—	—	—
Burnie 10	1	53	—	—	1
Cox 8	—	34	—	—	—
Mody 4	1	10	—	—	—
Hancock 5.2	1	12	—	—	4

THE HONGKONG HIGH-LEVEL TRAMWAYS CO., LIMITED

The fourteenth ordinary general meeting of the Hongkong High-Level Tramways Co., Limited, was held on 23rd Dec. at the Company's Registered Offices, Nos. 38 and 40, Queen's Road Central. Mr. H. Humphreys presided, and there were also present: Messrs. Ewens and Orange (Consulting Committee), G. Murray Bain, A. H. Mancell, W. G. Winterburn, and W. C. Taylor.

Mr. TAYLOR read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, the report and statement of accounts have been in your hands for the last fortnight, so with your permission I will take them as read. I think you will regard the past year's working as satisfactory. The items on the debit side of profit and loss are for the most part much the same as in previous years, with the exception of that under the heading of coals and stores, which shows an increase of about \$2,000. On the other side of the account, traffic receipts have taken a big jump, enabling us to give you a better dividend than that of last year. Those shareholders who use the tramway frequently will be glad to learn that we propose, in view of the large number of new houses in the neighbourhood, to erect a more suitable shelter at Bowen Road Station and widen the approach thereto, so that chairs can land or take passengers under cover. We have already made arrangements with the Government for the lighting of the approach with gas, and as soon as the new station is finished it will be lighted with gas also. As a further convenience to passengers using this station, we propose, on and after 1st January

next, to issue a punch ticket at a slightly reduced rate which will be available to or from Bowen Road and the Peak. We regret that the extremely steep gradient at Plantation Road, together with the precipitous nature of the ground to the north side, renders any improvement to the present station there difficult. Some correspondence has taken place in the Press relating to chair shelters at the Peak terminus, and one or two of the correspondents seemed to hold somewhat peculiar views as to this Company's responsibilities. We do not see our way to purchasing ground and erecting public chair shelters out of this Company's funds.

No questions were asked and the CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. MURRAY BAIN seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN proposed the re-election of Messrs. Ewens and Orange as the Consulting Committee.

Mr. WINTERBURN seconded.

Carried.

Mr. ORANGE proposed the re-election of Messrs. Fullarton Henderson and W. H. Potts as auditors.

Mr. MANCELL seconded.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business of the meeting, gentlemen. Dividend warrants are now ready, and can be had at the office on application. I see no reason why the dividend next year should not be equally good, if not better, but I do not think we can look forward to another 3 per cent. rise. Gentlemen, I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

The course for this race, which was sailed on the 18th December, was round Channel Rocks, Kowloon Rock, and Meyer's east buoy; all to port, twice round; 13 miles. The following boats started, A class at 1.15 and B class at 1.30:—Meteor, Maid Marian, Phoebe, Erica, Sybil, Chanticleer, Bonito, Princess, Dart, Payne, Ladybird, and She. The wind was east at the start, very light but stronger in Kowloon Bay, and the boats were spread over the harbour, there being differences of opinion as to where the wind would be strongest. Erica on the Hongkong shore and Phoebe near Kowloon Docks, the two extreme boats, were most favoured, and they led the fleet round all the marks, Erica with a 4 to 5 minutes' lead until Meyer's buoy was rounded the second time, when Phoebe carried the wind along with her. Sybil was third boat, and close up at this point. The three drifted down towards the finishing line almost together, and they each in turn got very near the line, but only to be drifted back by the ebb tide coming round Kowloon Point. The Maid Marian joined them and at one time looked like winning, but Erica making a tack close in to the Praya wall got across the line first, followed by the Sybil, with Maid Marian third. The times were:—

Erica	...	4	52	51	first	0	marks
Sybil	...	4	57	52	second	4	"
Maid Marian	...	5	2	25	third	1	"
Phoebe	...	5	3	4			
Meteor	...	5	15	35			

The other boats did not finish. The total marks in the competitions for the Club prizes to date are:—

Chanticleer	20	Dart	...	24
Erica	19	Ladybird	...	14
Sybil	14	Princess	...	6
Bonito	4	She	...	1
Active	1			
Meteor	1			
Maid Marian	1			

GREAT EASTERN AND CALEDONIAN GOLD MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

The second ordinary general meeting of shareholders of the above company was held at the registered office of the company, No. 7, Queen's Road Central, on the 29th December, for the purpose of receiving the report of the directors, together with a statement of accounts for the year ending June 30th. Mr. R. C. Wilcox (Chairman) occupied the chair, and there were also present Messrs. A. Denison, R. Abesser,

and G. C. Cox; directors; Mr. L. Lambotte, secretary; Messrs. A. Best, J. M. Michael, S. H. Michael, E. Georg, K. Eduljee, F. Forstmann, and T. H. Vogelgesang.

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, with your permission we will follow the usual practice, and take the report and accounts as read. The accounts have been made up to the 30th June, the latest date we could, having regard to our distance from the mines, conveniently adopt. Since that date we have purchased (and I hope by this time set up) a battery of twenty head of stamps with equivalent Berdan pans, and these should soon be engaged in crushing the 800 or 1,000 tons of quartz that has been brought to grass from the different mines. An office has been erected at the mines, and the dam has been completed, thus assuring—so far as can be assured, in a country where droughts are frequent and the rainfall variable—a sufficient supply for all purposes. With regard to the mines themselves, you have no doubt read the reports from our manager, sent by each mail, and are therefore pretty well posted in the progress of the work of development. A great deal of work has been done in opening out our property, though of course much more remains to be accomplished before we can expect a sufficiently large output to keep our battery fully and constantly at work. At the end of June the Great Eastern shaft had been sunk to a depth of 181 feet with a cross-cut to west of 31 feet and one to east of 15 feet. The Caledonian main shaft was then 164 feet deep and the cross-cut 6 feet. The Zulu shaft had got down to a depth of 129 feet and that in the Rise and Shine to 81 feet. The prospecting shaft had been sunk to a depth of 107 feet, and work was then suspended upon it in order that our resources might be concentrated in opening out the other shafts. Since that period the Great Eastern drive has been cut 79 feet north, with a rise of 15 feet; in the Zulu shaft a drive of 48 feet has been effected south; the Caledonian main shaft has a drive of 80 feet opened; and drives have also been commenced in the Bank of England and Rise and Shine shafts. So far very satisfactory progress has been made, but the stone is unusually hard and we are at some disadvantage in not possessing rock drills. We hope by and bye to obtain powerful rock-drilling plant, as our manager tells us he could with advantage then employ more than 200 hands, who could turn out plenty of quartz at a great saving in the cost of winning it. What we want is a large and steady out-put of quartz like they are getting at Raub. According to the assayer's reports, it would appear that the gold is nearly all extracted without having to use the cyanide process, so we are making no provision for the acquisition of a cyanide plant. The stone at Mount Macdonald is fairly rich, but the gold is not by any means evenly distributed. We have so far been fortunate in striking good lodes which seem to yield more than the average, but of course some of them may vary in width and richness. If, however, we can only develop the mines sufficiently we ought to continue to secure a steady output. In Mr. Carl Georg we have an indefatigable manager, who looks after everything, who will, we may be sure, do his best to keep things going and to prevent the waste which is such a conspicuous feature in many mining enterprises. The choice of the most suitable and economical machinery occupied a great deal of his and our attention, and we believe we have now acquired the best that could be obtained at the price and the kind most adapted to our wants. Miners as a class are difficult men to deal with and unless the mining manager is very diligent and observant work is apt to be sadly neglected. Mr. Georg has experienced many difficulties of this kind, but he has profited by his experience, and has found it most advantageous to work by contract whenever possible. I am glad to say the calls have been responded to very readily, all being now paid up except those on 187 shares, one lot of which would have been paid but for the death of the holder, while another has been delayed by the accident of losing the scrip. You will observe that the directors' fees figure this year for only \$500, which sum was voted to Mr. Denison in consideration of professional as-

sistance. I trust, gentlemen, we shall receive a telegram from the mines next month announcing a satisfactory crushing, one that will encourage us to develop the mines thoroughly and quickly. We had hoped to have given you this news earlier, but the manufacturers failed to keep their time for delivery of some of the machinery; hence the delay in our first crushing. I think, gentlemen, that is all I have to say on this occasion; but if you have any questions to ask, I shall do my best to supply any further information.

Mr. GEORG said he should like to ask what funds they had in hand and how long could they go on, apart from the result of the crushing they expected.

The CHAIRMAN replied that at the present time they had a balance of about \$35,000, which would last them several months.

Mr. GEORG—That is apart from whatever we may get from the crushing?

The CHAIRMAN—Yes.

Mr. GEORG—Some people think we have not sufficient money to go on with.

The CHAIRMAN—We hope the crushings will be sufficient for all purposes.

There being no further questions, the report was adopted, on the motion of the CHAIRMAN seconded by Mr. GEORG.

On the motion of Mr. BEST, seconded by Mr. J. M. MICHAEL, Messrs. R. C. Wilcox and M. Abesser were re-elected directors.

The CHAIRMAN announced that the accounts had been audited by Mr. A. O'D. Gourdin, but it was not necessary that the same gentleman should audit the accounts every year. According to the regulations it was in the power of the shareholders to select an auditor, but it was usual for the shareholders to leave it in the hands of the directors.

On the motion of Mr. BEST, seconded by Mr. J. M. MICHAEL, it was decided to leave the matter in the hands of the directors.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that that was all the business. They had some samples of ore from the mines and also some from Pinkerton's claim, which was a mine adjoining the Zulu mine and which had special interest to them, because it was so closely adjoining to their property. They would see that these specimens from Pinkerton's claim were of exceeding richness. Showing a small "button" of gold he said it was the only specimen of their gold at present, but he hoped they would be able to give them some very much more substantial results before long.

The proceedings then terminated.

The following is the report presented to the meeting:—

To the shareholders of the Great Eastern and Caledonian Gold Mining Co., Limited.

The Directors beg to submit to the shareholders a statement of accounts for the period ending 30th June, 1898. As will be seen, the sum of \$25,893.77 has been spent in opening up the different mines, and since this account has been made up, plant and machinery have been purchased and at last advices their erection was almost completed.

MINING PROPERTIES.

In addition to the Great Eastern and the Caledonian Gold Mining Leases, another property has been acquired, comprising the Zulu Mine, the Bank of England, the Rise and Shine, besides other ground, which as it promises to be useful in working, has been pegged out for the Company. The above-named five shafts are all in a fair state of development, and yielding good quartz. The prospecting shaft, after having been sunk to a depth of 107 feet, was temporarily stopped, it being considered better policy to employ the Company's resources in developing the existing shafts.

DAM.

A dam has been constructed in a substantial manner which gives a storage capacity of above two million gallons, thus providing an ample supply of water at the mines, a matter of no mean consideration in a country where the rainfall is so capricious. At last reports the dam was overflowing.

DIRECTORS.

In accordance with the articles of association, Messrs. R. C. Wilcox and R. Abesser retire in rotation, but being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITOR.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. A. O'D. Gourdin.

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,
Chairman.

BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1898.

ASSETS.		\$	c.
To property			
Cost of estate and buildings	182,255.85		
To Hongkong and Shanghai Bank current account	52,883.54		
To Union Bank of Sydney	9,249.90		
To cash	57.08		
To furniture	1,392.28		
To live stock (horses)	455.59		
To machinery, plant and tools	4,704.64		
To mine stores	905.39		
To Great Eastern main shaft	9,470.90		
To Caledonian main shaft	12,950.70		
To Zulu main shaft	11,069.64		
To prospecting shaft	3,639.12		
To Old Great Eastern drive	681.78		
To Rise and shive shaft	2,189.78		
To Bank of England shaft	3,826.88		
To dam	3,823.97		
To suspense, deposit on account new battery	3,130.43		
To balance	25,893.77		
		278,581.24	

LIABILITIES.

	\$	c.
By capital		
18,200 shares at \$5 fully paid	\$ 91,000.00	
51,800 shares at \$2.50 half paid	129,500.00	
First call of \$1 on 31,650 shares	51,650.00	
		272,150.00

Authorized capital \$350,000		
By accounts payable		
Due for stores ordered	\$1,021.65	
Due for wages	4,028.59	
Due for charges	781.00	
Due for directors' and auditor's fee	600.00	
		6,431.24
		\$278,581.24

WORKING ACCOUNT.

Dr.		\$	c.
To charges		6,948.46	
To preliminary expenses		1,000.00	
To legal expenses		983.39	
To travelling expenses		1,098.43	
To remuneration to General Agents for twelve months		3,000.00	
To printing and stationery		650.35	
To telegrams		464.17	
To wages and salaries		8,939.46	
To driving Great Eastern shaft		3,176.69	
To Crown rent		197.69	
To raising stone		66.78	
To driving Caledonian shaft		423.74	
		\$26,949.16	

Cr.		\$	c.
By interest		721.01	
By exchange		334.38	
By balance		25,893.77	
		\$26,949.16	

THE TWO COTTON SPINNING AND WEAVING CO., LD.

The third ordinary general meeting of shareholders in the above Company was held at the offices of the General Managers, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Company, Shanghai, on the 21st December, Mr. E. F. Alford presiding. There were also present Messrs. J. Prentice, A. McLeod, and Zee Tee-san (Directors), C. S. Taylor (Secretary), J. M. Young, E. U. Smith, C. Dowdall, H. F. Henningsen, J. D. Clark, W. Lamond, Jun., Tong Kid-son, C. Buchanan, R. Inglis, W. J. Gresson, J. Kerfoot, J. Valentine, J. F. Rodewald, W. A. Cruickshank, E. R. Morris, and E. R. Burdon, representing in all 4,685 shares. The notice convening the meeting having been read,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, I must ask you to excuse the delay which has occurred in posting the report but your auditor did not finish it until Monday, the 12th instant, and the gentleman who was looking after it fell ill last week and his work had to be gone over *de novo* by another. I will request you, as is customary, to take the report and accounts as read but before asking you to adopt them will endeavour to give you the fullest information as to the position of affairs. The condition of the cotton industry at this port during the year under review has lately become known to all. Commencing the year 1897-8 with the favourable results we had expected and with fair pro-

spects for their continuance, we had, ere half through the year, to encounter abnormal prices for the raw article which failed to meet with reciprocal improvement or permanency in the yarn market and gradually brought about a period of absolute loss. In August the position of our working account was, that the profit made had disappeared and that after nine months' work with a stock of yarn of 4,000 bales taken at the then depreciated market price we came out just on the right side. From August to October, however, owing to continued further decline a debit was created, and deducting therefrom our commission as general managers we have a final debit balance of some Tls. 17,000. This adverse result I may mention would have been different had the capital been all paid up, as only Tls. 15,000 of interest pertains to working account, Tls. 10,000 being interest on advances in lieu of capital and the remaining Tls. 6,000 being for interest for money sunk in unproductive plant and buildings which might have been placed to these accounts instead of to interest account, in which it is included. Such an entry would have been legitimate, but the item not having been so treated we did not care to make the transfer simply to reduce the loss on working at the expense of a permanent addition to the cost of plant and buildings. On the other hand we have not written anything off for depreciation, though seeing the small number of spindles which have been running continuously the plant may safely be taken to be nearly as good as new. When addressing you last year I expressed a hope that we should have the 20,000 spindles required for the No. 1 mill out by January last. It was a hope, I regret to say, which proved a disappointment, and owing to the intervention of the strike at home you will observe from the printed report that even now we have not these final 20,000 spindles completed or at work, though we have done all in our power to expedite shipment, delivery, and erection. As regards cost the aggregate of mill No. 1 with land and offices will reach something over 13 lakhs, but given full equipment, the best machinery, and first-class buildings, I do not think this need be considered unusually high. The result of the past year's working is very different from what a year ago I hoped might be the case, for as already stated not only has the high price of China cotton been against us, but the tendency of markets has favoured India and Japan. You may reasonably ask, do these conditions continue or are they likely to recur? I think and hope not. A renewed demand for yarn set in some two months ago and experience of the local market for the raw material has not proved valueless. I will now take the accounts and touch on the larger items *seriatim*. Property Tls. 138,000 needs no remark. Buildings Tls. 360,000, of which Tls. 92,000 is expended on the new press warehouse and foundations for the No. 2 mill. Plant, Tls. 837,000, which will be increased by another lakh before the whole 50,000 spindles for No. 1 mill are thoroughly fitted. Cotton stock Tls. 11,000 is taken over at a lower basis than the value ruling to-day. Yarn stock Tls. 305,000 all sold excepting 1,100 bales before the valuation was taken, so the result will be neither better nor worse. Sundry debtors Tls. 42,000, principally six day native bank orders, since matured and collected. On the other side we have capital the original 10,000 shares plus 124 new shares all fully paid up, and 4,876 new shares on which Tls. 25 per share has only so far been called up. Then there is an item of some seven lakhs due to our firm, and Tls. 23,000 of accounts payable, which consists chiefly of interest accrued and not paid at the date of account. I have already mentioned the No. 1 mill with the land and offices will cost over thirteen lakhs, which you will observe exceeds the original capital of one million by more than two lakhs, a deficiency supplied from the seven lakhs supplied by my firm. I mentioned last year that the money derivable from the new issue of shares would suffice for this year's requirements, but we have as yet taken no steps towards balance of calls leviable on the new shares, nor have we proceeded with the debenture issue authorised, being content so far to provide all necessary funds ourselves. For the present the matter had better thus

rest. As regards the No. 2 mill the amounts so far expended on press warehouse and foundations amounts, as I have already mentioned, to Tls. 92,000. When we entered on the negotiations for new machinery we found the makers full of work and asking higher prices, added to which there came news of further delay in delivery of the balance of spindles for the No. 1 mill, a delay so very inconvenient that the board determined they would not further consider the question of extension until the No. 1 mill was completed. We had contracted for the press warehouse, as it was needed and it was a welcome addition for storage purposes. The outlay thus incurred, some Tls. 12,000, is not therefore entirely unproductive, the only unproductive outlay being the foundations of the No. 2 mill, but we need not regret this, for progress will now be made and I hope with success. Gentlemen, we have gone through a season of much difficulty and anxiety, but the difficulties are, I think, disappearing, and your anxieties may lessen. We have effected economies in wages, and improvements in production and we can at least claim that we have entered on a new year's working making something to the good. The cotton industry is not dead. It is only in its infancy, and whilst I am disappointed at the circumstances of the year past, I look with confidence to the result of the years to come. I shall be pleased to answer any questions to the best of my ability.

No questions being asked, The CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and accounts for the past year.

Mr. A. MACLEOD seconded and the resolution was unanimously carried.

Mr. E. U. SMITH proposed the re-election of Messrs. J. Prentice, A. Macleod, Tafoong, and Zee Tee-san, together with the senior representative of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., as directors.

Mr. HENNINGSEN seconded and the motion was agreed to.

Mr. J. D. CLARK proposed the re-election of Mr. Wingrove as auditor for the ensuing year. Mr. W. Lamond, junior, seconded and the appointment was confirmed.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman, unanimously accorded on the proposition of Mr. J. D. Clark.—N. C. Daily News.

The following is the report presented to the meeting:—

The General Managers submit a statement of accounts to the 31st October, 1898, showing the result of twelve months' working to that date.

The number of spindles now received amounts to 41,752, but the number running averages only 29,000 for 51 weeks, as the makers were not in a position to resume shipment before June this year.

The average price of yarn for the year under review was Tls. 9.82 per bale below that realized during the six months ending on 31st October last year, while the average price of China cotton showed a reduction of only 75 candareens per picul. Under such unfortunate conditions the Profit and Loss Account results in a debit of Tls. 17,649.89, after writing back the General Managers' commission and one half their office expenses, and Tls. 1,833.58 has yet to be provided for repairs and renewals.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

In accordance with Article XVII the members retire, but being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITOR.

Mr. Wingrove offers himself for re-election. JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., General Managers.

Shanghai, 6th December, 1898.

LIABILITIES.		Tls.
Capital—Authorized, 17,500 shares at Tls. 100 each—Tls. 1,750,000.		
Subscribed, 10,124 shares at—		
Tls. 100 each	= 1,012,400	
4,876 shares at Tls. 25 each	= 121,900	
		1,134,300.00
Jardine, Matheson & Co.		711,500.00
Accounts payable		23,860.11
Uncollected dividends		1,102.50
		Tls. 1,870,762.61

ASSETS.	Tls.
Property	138,873.86
Buildings	268,031.44
Buildings extension	92,135.81
Plant	360,167.25
Water supply	837,417.05
Mill stores	19,930.45
Coal	6,755.86
Furniture	1,300.00
Cotton stock	3,343.61
Cotton and yarn in process	113,141.81
Yarn stock	15,357.31
Unexpired fire insurance premia	304,932.63
Rates and taxes (applicable to next year) ..	6,280.36
Repairs and renewals	844.15
Sundry debtors	1,833.58
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank	42,141.92
ash with compradore	680.25
Profit and loss account	612.63
	17,649.89
	Tls. 1,870,762.61

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.	Tls.
Dr.	
To interest	31,123.05
To fire insurance	12,879.64
To rates and taxes	2,063.91
To printing and advertising	621.83
To offices expenses (one half only charged) ..	2,500.00
To auditor's fees	250.00
To directors fees	3,750.00
To General Managers' commission Tls. 13,742.15	
(not charged)	

Tls. 53,088.43

Cr.	Tls.
By balance from last year ..	41,261.64
By less dividend paid	35,000.00
By less written off for preliminary expenses ..	3,957.78
	88,957.78
By transfer fees	2,303.86
By balance of working account	134.00
By balance	33,000.68
	17,649.89
	Tls. 53,088.43

LOSS OF THE STEAMER "GLENAVON."

The steamer *Glenavon*, which left Hongkong on Thursday afternoon at five o'clock on her homeward voyage, struck about a quarter past seven on a submerged rock off Shiamun Island. As it was found the water was making rapidly an attempt was made to beach the vessel, but she sank before the shore was reached. Most of the crew and all passengers escaped in the boats, two of which arrived here yesterday morning. The other two have not yet been heard of. H.M.S. *Rattler* and several steam-launches have gone out in search of them. It is feared that they have been swamped, and their occupants (who include Chief Officer Dixon, Third Engineer Ainsley, and Second Steward Wilson) drowned. Quarter-master Smith, who swam ashore, died from exhaustion.

DELIVERING A IMPERIAL MESSAGE.

According to a Wuchang dispatch H.E. Viceroy Chang recently received a surprise visit from Peking. It appears that Wu, the new Literary Chancellor of Hunan, when en route from Peking to his post the other day, called at Wuchang and sent on an officer ahead of him to inform Viceroy Chang that he (the Literary Chancellor) had a verbal message for him from the Empress Dowager. On receipt of this intelligence the great hall of the viceregal *yamen* was draped at once with red silk while on the long "Table of Justice" at the top of the hall were placed a big urn filled with burning incense and two large lighted candles placed one on each side of the urn. In this hall Viceroy Chang and his personal staff, including the local authorities, stood, keeping on the right-hand side of the room, Viceroy Chang a few steps in front of his staff, and there awaited the arrival of the Imperial messengers. Amidst an Imperial salute of nine guns followed by the profound silence of the assembled multitude, the bearer of the Empress Dowager's verbal edict was carried in his sedan-chair through double lines of armed soldiers right up to the threshold of the hall, when alighting, he walked pompously up to the side of the "Table of Justice" and then turned square round keeping in the middle do

the table in front of the urn and facing the courtyard of the hall. While all this went on Viceroy Chang and his staff kept perfectly still standing with bowed heads until the Imperial messenger cried out with a loud, resonant voice: "Listen to the sacred edict of the Empress Dowager!" Immediately the Viceroy and those behind fell on their knees and began making the Imperial obeisance of nine *kotows* and three genuflections. This over but still in a kneeling position and with bowed and humbled heads they received the Imperial message which was given by the messenger, standing perfectly erect, in the first person singular: "I, the Empress Dowager, am exceedingly pleased with you, Chang Chih-tung, for you have ever been loyal, faithful, and just to the Imperial dynasty while you have also performed your duties in a sincere and diligent manner. Respect this!" The message was received in decorous silence and again the ceremony of three genuflections and nine *kotows* was performed. As the Viceroy rose up from his recumbent position the Imperial messenger, who had now become a Literary Chancellor again and a junior officer to the former, went down on his two knees in his turn to the Viceroy who returned the salute, but with only one knee touching the ground. And so ended a ceremony which seemed all the more impressive through being mostly performed in deep silence. When the visitor left the viceregal *yamen* he received the usual official salute of three guns being, according to Chinese etiquette, an Imperial messenger no longer, having once delivered his mission.

The meaning to be drawn from this distinction from the Empress Dowager seems to be that she acknowledges that the Viceroy Chang is too powerful to be dismissed summarily like the others who have suffered from her relentless hatred, although the Viceroy was just as much "in it" as ex-Governor Chen of Hunan and others, and she hates him with a deep and profound hatred because of his telegrams to her that he considered his allegiance was due more to the Emperor than to her, and hinted that he would not sit quietly to see his Majesty deposed in favour of some other creature of hers. Her clever Majesty has therefore made the best of her position by sending him a message as a special distinction, an honour she has denied to his more powerful colleague of the Yangtze Valley, Viceroy Liu of Nanking. Perhaps she trusts in this way to create jealousy and distrust between these two great officers of the Crown, and we may rest assured that she will use all her statecraft to accomplish this, if such indeed is her aim. But she also knows that she has incurred the deep hatred of a large section of her Hunan subjects by her ruthless measures after the *coup d'etat*, through which fell the head of the martyred Tan Sze-tung, the son of the ex-Governor of Hupeh; the imprisonment for life of Hsu Chih-ching; the banishment of Li Tuan-fen, etc., etc., all of these being influential members of the Hunan aristocracy.—N. C. Daily News.

HONGKONG.

Magazine Gap is to be supplied with gas from the 1st January.

The War Department is advertising for houses suitable as quarters for married soldiers.

There were no cases of communicable disease reported as occurring in the colony last week.

Lord Charles Beresford left Hongkong for Canton on Wednesday night for a day or two.

Major-General Gascoigne and Mrs. Gascoigne arrived by the P. & O. steamer *Chusan* on Sunday.

Mr. Granville Sharp returned to the colony yesterday by the C.P.R. steamer *Empress of China*.

There were 2,365 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, 189 of whom were Europeans.

The death rate last month was, for the British and Foreign community, civil population, 17.8, and for the Chinese community, 17.6.

Lord Charles Beresford has accepted an invitation to dine with the Hongkong Branch of the Navy League on the 3rd January.

Section A of Marine Lot No. 7 together with the reclamation in front thereof was offered for sale by auction on 29th Dec. by Mr. H. N. Mody, but was bought in.

At a regular meeting of the Victoria Precinctory held on the 23rd instant Sir Knight F. D. Goddard was elected Eminent Precceptor for the ensuing year and Sir Knight J. J. Bryan Treasurer.

The annual Christmas concert for the patients of the Government Civil Hospital was given on Tuesday afternoon, and was attended by H.E. the Governor and Lady Blake. A Christmas tree was held after the concert.

A painfully sudden death occurred on the 23rd December. Mr. F. W. Stokes, bookkeeper in the employ of the Robinson Piano Co., had just closed the store and was in the act of looking the door when he was seized with a fit of giddiness, to which he was subject, and fell down. He was at once carried inside and Dr. Rennie was sent for, but before the doctor's arrival Mr. Stokes had expired. The deceased gentleman leaves a widow, with whom much sympathy will be felt. The doctor gave it as his opinion that death had resulted from failure of the heart's action. The deceased had been in the colony for about twelve months, having come from Ceylon.

The annual distribution of prizes at the Bellios Public School was made on 23rd December. The school year ends in July, and the prize giving had been so long delayed owing to the continued indisposition of the head mistress, Mrs. Bateman, that it was decided to hold it in private, and no invitations were sent out. The prizes were distributed by Mr. Brewin, the Inspector of Schools. Thanks are due to the following gentlemen who subscribed to the prize fund:—The Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, Hon. E. R. Bellios, C.M.G., Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, Captain Anderson, Captain Burnie, Messrs. R. Cooke, Chan Pat, Chan Tong, D. R. Crawford, Victor Deacon, D. Gillies, Fung Wa Chun, Ho Amei, Ho Fook, Ho Tung, H. Humphreys, T. Jackson, Li Shing, Lau Wai Chuen, H. N. Mody, R. Shewan, Harry Wicking, A. G. Wise, A. Rodger, H. L. Denny, Wai Lun Shik, Wy Seng, and J. M. Forbes.

At the regular meeting of the Zetland Lodge, No. 525, held on Tuesday evening, Bro. G. Piercy, who had been elected Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, was duly installed in the chair by Right Wor. Bro. the Hon. C. P. Chater, the District Grand Master. Assisted by the District Grand Lodge Officers, Wor. Bro. Piercy invested his officers as follows:—I.P.M., Wor. Bro. G. J. B. Sayer; S.W., Bro. J. Dyer Ball; J.W., Bro. J. W. L. Oliver; Treasurer, Wor. Bro. G. A. Caldwell; Secretary, Bro. E. Ralphs; S.D., Bro. O. Ordish; J.D., Bro. J. J. Bryan; Organist, Bro. G. Grimble; Director of Ceremonies, Bro. B. B. Harker; I.G., Bro. G. F. K. Sachse; Steward, Bro. J. Shelton; Tyler, Bro. B. Jorus. A Past Master's jewel was voted to Wor. Bro. Sayer in recognition of his services as Worshipful Master during the past year. After the closing of the Lodge the brethren dined together in the banqueting hall, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

The 23rd annual meeting of the District Grand Lodge of Hongkong and South China was held on 29th Dec., at which Wor. Bro. E. C. Ray presided. The following appointments were made and officers invested:—District Senior Grand Warden, Wor. Bro. W. C. H. Hastings; District Junior Grand Warden, Wor. Bro. J. Bryant; D.G. Chaplain, Wor. Bro. F. Salinger; D.G. Treasurer, Wor. Bro. T. F. Hough; D.G. Registrar, Wor. Bro. W. L. Ford; D.G. President Board of G. P., Wor. Bro. G. A. Caldwell; D.G. Secretary, Wor. Bro. A. O'D. Gourdin; District Senior Grand Deacon, Wor. Bro. R. Mitchell; District Junior Grand Deacon, Wor. Bro. E. P. Bond; D.G. Superintendent of Works, Wor. Bro. G. J. B. Sayer; D.G. Dir. of Ceremonies, Wor. Bro. H. E. A. Hoile; D.G. Assistant Dir. of Ceremonies, Wor. Bro. Geo. Piercy, Jr.; D.G. Sword Bearer, Wor. Bro. J. Hutchison; D.G. Standard Bearers, Wor. Bros. J. H. Pearson and T. H. Siemsen; D.G. Organist, Bro. A. G. Ward; D.G. Pursuivant, Wor. Bro. J. Bremner; D.G. Assistant Pursuivant, Wor. Bro. C. W. Spriggs; D.G. Stewards, Bro. J. D. Ball, F. D. Goddard, F. W. Clark, W. E. Keay, E. Q. Cooper, and J. Naismith; D.G. Tyler, J. B. Grimble.

A Nanking dispatch states as follows.—“H.E. Viceroy Liu has reappointed the expectant sub-prefect Yu Cheng-hsiang to the post of deputy in the Nanking Bureau of Foreign Affairs, owing to the increased degree of intercourse the Viceroy has with the high officials of various nations, especially those from Great Britain. Sub-Prefect Yu is a very good English scholar and well-acquainted with foreign matters.” With reference to the above the *N. C. Daily News* says it is, perhaps, not generally known that Sub-Prefect Yu Cheng-hsiang's “other name” or *alias* is “Yu Sui-wan,” and he was at one time a clerk in a solicitor's office in Hongkong, which place he had to leave suddenly owing to the desire of the Hongkong police to make a better acquaintance with him. Yu Sui-wan then came north and joined the Viceregal service in Nanking. During the late war with Japan Yu was sent down to Shanghai to try, on behalf of the Viceroy, several alleged spies, both Japanese and Chinese, the tortures which he brought to hear on his victims being so cruel that it will be remembered a general protest was made in the local Press at the time. Sir Nicholas Hannen, then Consul-General here, taking this into account as well as the record Yu held in Hongkong as a fugitive from justice, actually refused to have any dealings with the man and wrote to the Viceroy Liu about the objections foreigners in general had to his Excellency's foreign deputy. The result was that Yu was removed from the Bureau of Foreign Affairs. Nearly four years having now passed it is perhaps thought at Nanking that Yu's antecedents have been forgotten.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

CANTON, 22nd December.—Macao Congous.—The business of the past month amounts only to 4,000 boxes at advancing prices up to Tls. 38 p'c picul. The quality has been well maintained, but the supply has been unequal to the demand. The lower grades are in request, but none are to be had, and no fresh supplies are expected this season. Scented Capers.—The market is closed as far as buying is concerned, a few old settlements only remaining to be shipped. The total export will be 4,000,000 lbs.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED KINGDOM AND CONTINENT.

	1898-99 lbs.	1897-98 lbs.
Hankow and Shanghai...	13,478,766	13,863,361
Foochow	13,200,549	12,622,570
Amoy	684,252	675,084
Canton	4,443,760	5,455,162
	31,807,327	32,601,197

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1898-99 lbs.	1897-98 lbs.
Shanghai	13,171,662	18,823,511
Amoy	10,442,812	12,467,773
Foochow	7,297,412	7,126,264
	30,911,886	38,417,498

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA

	1898-99 lbs.	1897-98 lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow...	22,691,075	19,462,293

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1898-99 lbs.	1897-98 lbs.
Yokohama	24,282,455	25,178,843
Kobe	12,156,816	24,475,448
	36,449,271	49,654,291

SILK.

SHANGHAI, 23rd December.—(From Messrs. A. B. Burkill & Sons' Circular).—The Home markets keep firm and quotations remain unchanged. Raw Silk.—There has been a good demand again this week, and settlements of Tsatles amount to 700 bales; Gold Kilings have risen to Tls. 470, and prices are very strong. Yellow Silk.—A good business has been done, especially in Mienchow, about 250 bales of all qualities have changed hands. Arrivals, as per Customs Re-

turns, December 17th to 22nd, are: 1,206 bales White, 135 bales Yellow Silk. Re-reels and Filatures.—About 100 bales Hand Filatures have been settled for America, and 150 bales for Lyons. A small business is doing in Common Market Steam Filatures. The Export of Steam Filatures to date is: 2,001 bales to the Continent, 1,103 bales to America and 68 bales to England. Wild Silk.—Some 200/250 bales Tassah Filatures have been settled, a moderate business has been done in Raws. Waste silk.—Very little doing; there has been some enquiry for Long Honan Waste No. 1, and Nankin Buttons 1 and 2.

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1898-99 bales.	1897-98 bales.
Shanghai	42,304	36,493
Canton	20,721	16,748
Yokohama	13,806	13,197
	76,831	66,438

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1898-99 bales.	1897-98 bales.
Shanghai	3,952	7,692
Canton	7,040	8,235
Yokohama	15,792	21,174
	26,784	37,101

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 30th December.—There is little change to note in the position of this market. Quotations for Formosa are \$51 to \$51.00. Sales, 280 piculs.

S.

HONGKONG, 30th December.—The market has given way and prices are weaker. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White...	\$7.70 to \$7.75	or picul.
do. 2, White...	7.30 to 7.35	“
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown...	5.90 to 5.05	“
do. 2, Brown...	4.90 to 4.94	“
Swatow, No. 1, White...	7.65 to 7.70	“
do. 1, White...	7.15 to 7.20	“
Swatow, No. 1, Brown...	4.85 to 4.90	“
do. 2, Brown...	4.70 to 4.75	“
Foochow Sugar Candy	11.00 to 11.10	“
Shekloong	10.02 to 10.03	“

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per steamer *Konigsberg*, sailed on the 19th December. For Beyrouth:—6 cases camphor. For Havre:—1 case silk, 2 cases soy, 6 cases bambooware, 7 bales feathers, 25 cases human hair, 39 cases Chinaware, 130 bales canes, 151 cases staranised, 259 cases camphor, and 2,369 packages tea. For Havre and/or Hamburg:—9 cases egg yolk, 10 cases human hair, 39 cases Chinaware, 100 cases palm leaf fans, 100 rolls matting, and 170 bales horns. For Havre and/or Hamburg and/or London:—1 case egg yolk, 30 bales cassia lignea, 50 bales feathers, 100 cases staranised, 180 bristles, and 510 cases camphor. For Havre and/or Hamburg and/or London and/or Antwerp:—2 cases human hair. For Hamburg:—2 cases curios, 2 cases paper, 8 cases gongs, 3 cases machinery, 5 cases China ware, 5 cases China ink, 5 cases powder, 7 cases private effects, 8 cases human hair, 12 cases sundries, 16 cases cigars, 20 bales galangal, 30 rattan shavings, 41 rolls mats, 75 rolls matting, 90 cases palm leaf fans, 135 cases preserves, 200 cases cassia buds, 250 cases staranised, 415 packages canes, 423 packages crackers, 500 bales broken cassia, 819 bales feathers, 935 cases camphor, and 3,101 packages tea. For Hamburg and/or Bremen:—75 cases preserves. For Hamburg and/or London:—250 bales broken cassia and 250 bales cassia lignea. For London:—10 boxes essential oil and 250 boxes palm leaf fans. For Bremen:—1 case private effects and 20 cases preserves. For Amsterdam:—5 cases preserves and 16 cases crackers. For Rotterdam:—176 cases preserves and 600 bales broken cassia. For Antwerp:—2 cases cigars and 43 packages canes. For New York:—10 cases essential oil.

Per steamer *Braemar*, sailed on the 22nd December. For New York:—3,533 rolls matting, 915 packages firecrackers, 100 cases staranised, 48 packages Chinaware, and 1,749 packages merchandise.

Per P. & O. steamer *Coromandel* sailed on the 21st December. For Manchester:—150 bales waste silk. For London and/or Manchester:—190 bales waste silk. For London:—70 bales raw silk, 3 cases silk piece goods, and 10 cases effects. For France:—660 packages tea, and 1 case labels from Foochow, 619 bales raw silk, 31 cases silk piece goods, 2 cases feathers, and 1 case pongees. For Milan:—10 bales raw silk.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 30th December.—Bengal.—There has been an improvement in the prices for this drug, and the market closes strong at the following figures:—New Patna \$802½, and New Benares \$792½.

Malwa.—The market for this drug has been rather cold, latest figures being:—New

Old (2/3 yrs.) \$740 “ “ 0 to 1 “ “ (4/5 “) \$780 “ “ 0 to 1 “ Persian.—The market has continued rather quiet and the prices remain unchanged. Closing quotations are \$550 to \$650 for Oily and \$640 to \$710 for Paver-tied.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—

New Patna	1,838 chests.
New Benares	410 “
Malwa	700 “
Persian	680 “

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1898.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Dec. 24	795	—	785	—	720	—
Dec. 25	795	—	785	—	720	—
Dec. 26	795	—	782½	—	720	—
Dec. 27	795	—	782½	—	720	—
Dec. 28	796½	—	782½	—	720	—
Dec. 29	800	—	790	—	720	—
Dec. 30	802½	—	792½	—	720	—

RICE.

HONGKONG, 23rd December.—The demand has been smaller during the past week and prices are weaker. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.60 to \$2.65
“ Round, good quality	2.75 to 2.80
“ Long	2.90 to 2.92
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 1 ..	2.70 to 2.75
“ Garden, “ No. 1 ..	3.00 to 3.05
“ White	3.80 to 3.85
“ Fine Cargo	4.15 to 4.20

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 30th December.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—*Bombay Yarn*.—2,000 bales No. 10 at \$65 to \$82.50, 60 bales No. 12 at \$65 to 50 bales No. 16 at \$31, 900 bales No. 20 at \$80 to \$85.50. *Grey Shirtings*.—500 pieces 10 lbs. Red 5 Men at \$3.32½. *White Shirtings*.—500 pieces S C at \$4.15, 500 pieces 600 at \$4.35, 50 pieces Flower Chop at \$4.85, 300 pieces Gold Tiger at \$6.00, 1,000 pieces 48 Reed at \$2.27½. *T. Cloths*.—375 pieces Mex. G. Pheasant at \$1.92½, 375 pieces 7 lbs. Sil. Dragon at \$2.17½.

SHANGHAI, 23rd December.—(From Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s Piece-Goods Trade Report).—Owing to the Christmas holidays the mail closes earlier this week, and we have therefore a somewhat shorter interval to report on. There is certainly a little more life discernible in the market, brought about no doubt by the slight reaction in Exchange, which has a re-assuring effect, making operators less afraid to commit themselves. Transactions have been chiefly to arrive—goods bought for shipment December-January—but it is difficult to arrive at the prices paid on account of the varied Exchanges that have prevailed for forward business, and for that reason only a very small proportion of the sales are quoted. The news from Hankow continues to improve and is having a salutary effect on prices here, both at the Auctions and privately, but how long it will continue seems somewhat doubtful in the present state of financial affairs. An unusual enquiry for American Drills is noticeable for that market, but business is restricted owing to the small available stock here at present. There is a decided improvement in the market for Yarns and prices have advanced for all kinds. Local Spinnings are engaging considerable attention and some important forward contracts have been booked this week, which will necessitate night work being resumed in some of the Mills. Cotton has advanced again owing to the demand for the Mills and also for Japan, best machine ginned being unobtainable much under Tls. 13.00.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 30th December.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/11½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/11½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/11½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/11½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/11½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/00½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.47½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.52
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	2.00
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	47½
Credits, 60 days' sight	48½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	146½
Bank, on demand	147
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	146½
Bank, on demand	147
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	72
Private, 30 days' sight	73
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	4½ % pm.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	1½ % pm.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	¾ % pm.
SOVEREIGNS Bank's Buying Rate	10.04
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	52.50

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 30th December.—The Christmas holidays have materially interfered with business and there is very little to report. Rates, however, have remained steady and look as though they would continue so over the monthly settlements.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai.—A few small sales at 248 per cent. prem. cash and at 254 for February are all the news to report. Nationals continue steady and a small enquiry has resulted in business at \$17.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders have been enquired for at \$62, but holders demand a higher rate and market closes at \$62½. Unions, Cantons, Straits, and the Northern Insurances remain quiet at quotations and without business.

FIRE INSURANCES.—There is no change or business to report in either Hongkongs or Chinas, which close respectively at \$320 and \$88.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao continue neglected at \$26½ with only very small sales. Indo-Chinas have ruled a little easier with sales at \$60, closing with buyers at that rate. China Manilas without change or business. Douglasses have been placed at the reduced rate of \$51 and close with buyers at that rate. China Mutuals are still enquired for at quotations.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars, after small sales at \$170 and \$171, close rather easier with sellers at the latter rate. Luzons have ruled neglected and without business.

MINING.—Punjoms continue very quiet with but very small sales at \$6.25, closing steady with probable buyers at that rate. Charbonnages are enquired for at \$105 without bringing out sellers. Queen Mines, Jebeus, and Olivers have all changed hands in small lots at quotations, and Raubs continue in demand at \$44½ after small unimportant sales at \$43, \$43½, \$44½, and \$45.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have ruled steady at 288 per cent. prem., after small sales at 286 and 287 for cash. On time shares have been placed at 300 for March. Kowloon Wharves have improved to \$76 with small sales, closing with a further demand at that rate. Wanchais continue unchanged and without business.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have changed hands in small lots at \$75 and close with sellers at that rate. Hotels with an unsatisfied demand at \$69 have gradually improved to \$72, after sales at \$70 and \$71, market closing at \$72. West Points and Humphreys continue on offer and without business at quotations.

COTTON MILLS.—Hongkong Cottons have changed hands at \$47½ and close with buyers at \$49, and probably at a little higher rate. The

Northern Cotton Mills are without any local business and quotations are taken from the last Shanghai circulars.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Star Ferries have been negotiated at \$10. Watsons at \$12½, and China Providents at \$10.25. Electrics have ruled quiet and weak at quotation and without business.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	248 ½/10 prem=
China & Japan, prf.	\$5	nominal
Do. ordinary	\$4	\$1
Do. deferred	\$1	\$5, 5s.
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	\$8	\$17, sales
Founders Shares	\$8	\$17, sales
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	\$1	nominal
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$10
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$10 25 sellers
China Sugar	\$100	\$170, buyers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 75
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 80
Lau Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 80
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 400
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 55
Hongkong	\$70	\$48, buyers
Dairy Farm Co.	\$6	\$5
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$31, buyers
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$20, buyers
Do. New Issue	\$5	\$14, buyers
H. & China Bakery	\$50	\$33
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$126
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$10, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$120, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$72
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$120, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$76, sales & buyers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$172½
H. & W. Dock	\$125	288 p. ct. prem.=
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$150, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$48, buyers
China Traders'	\$25	\$62½, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$320
North-China	\$25	Tls. 180
Straits	\$20	\$7, sellers
Union	\$50	\$230, sellers
Yangtze	\$60	\$125
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment	\$50	\$75, sales & sellers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$3.75, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$18
West Point Building	\$40	\$19, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$55, seller
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fce. 250	\$105, buyers
Great E. & C'donian	\$5	\$7.75, buyers
Jebeu	\$5	\$3.90
Queen's Mines Ltd.	25c.	10 cts.
Oliver's Mines, A.	\$5	\$7, buyers
Do. B.	\$2½	\$5.3, buyers
Punjom	\$5	\$6.25, sal. & sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$1.50
Raubs	14s. 10d.	\$44½, buyers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$14½, sales
Steamship Coy.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$95
China Mutual Ord.	\$10	\$9. 10s., buyers
Do. Preference	\$10	\$5 10s., buyers
Do. I. O.	\$5	\$3, buyers
Douglas S. S. Co.	\$50	\$51, buyers
H. Canton and M.	\$15	\$26½, sales
Indo-China S. N.	\$10	\$0, buyers
Star Ferry	\$7½	\$10, buyers
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$5	\$5, sellers
Do.	\$2	\$3, sellers
United Asbestos	\$2	\$1.0, buyers
Do.	\$10	\$10, nominal
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$37½	\$41
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$12½, sales

J. Y. V. VERNON, broker.

SHANGHAI, 24th December.—From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report.—But a small business was done in this short week. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. No cash business is reported. Business was done for delivery in February at 255 per cent. premium and for March at 255 per cent. to 252.50 per cent. Cash shares are offering at the close. Marine Insurance.—No business is reported. Fire Insurance.—Hongkong Fire Insurance shares changed hands at \$320. China Fire Insurance shares were placed at \$39. Shipping.—Indo-China S. N. shares were placed at Tls. 44.50 for the 31st January, and Tls. 47 for the 31st March. Business has been done in Hongkong at \$61. Sugars.—Perak sugar shares were placed for March at Tls. 41. China Sugar Refining shares were sold at \$166 locally, and a sale to Hongkong

at \$170 is reported. Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Business was done in Hoyd and Company shares at Tls. 185, S. C. Farnham and Company shares at Tls. 164, Shanghai Dock shares at Tls. 90, and Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares at Tls. 127.50. Shanghai Dock shares are wanted at Tls. 90, while Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares are offering at Tls. 127.50. Lands.—Business has been confined to a sale of Shanghai Land Investment shares at Tls. 88. Industrial.—Ewo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company Limited.—shares are wanted at Tls. 70, but are held for higher rate. International Cotton Mill shares were placed at Tls. 80 cash, Tls. 78.50 for the 31st current, and Tls. 83-83.60 for the 31st March and are wanted. Old Ice shares are wanted at Tls. 80. New Ice shares were sold and are wanted at Tls. 26. American Cigarette shares were placed at Tls. 62.50. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai Waterworks shares are weak, with sellers. Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco shares were sold at Tls. 69/69.50 for the 31st current cum the dividend of Tls. 2.44 paid yesterday. Shanghai Langkat Tobacco shares changed hands at Tls. 130, for Old cum new issue at par, with delivery on the 31st March. Hall and Hollis shares are offering at \$32. J. Llewellyn and Company shares were placed at \$57.50 and are wanted. Central Stores shares were placed at \$10. Loans.—Business was done in.—Shanghai Municipal 6 per cent. Debentures of 1895 at Tls. 101, and Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf 6 per cent. Debentures at Tls. 100.50, cum the accrued interest in both cases.

TONNAGE.

SHANGHAI, 24th December (from Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s report).—This number of our freight circular is issued somewhat earlier than usual, owing to the Christmas holidays. There is nothing of any importance to report in freights homewards, and we take this opportunity of wishing our readers the compliments of the season and prosperity during the coming New Year to compensate for the miserable state of business generally during the year 1898. Rates of freight are:—London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s.; waste silk 42s. 6d.; tea 45s.; Northern Continental ports, by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s.; waste silk 42s. 6d.; tea 45s.; New York via London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 47s. 6d.; waste silk 50s.; tea 52s. 6d.; Baltimore via London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 52s. 6d.; waste silk 5s.; tea 57s. 6d.; Konigsberg via London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 47s. 6d.; waste silk 50s.; tea 52s. 6d.; Manchester, by Conference Lines, general cargo 52s. 6d.; waste silk 55s.; tea 57s. 6d.; Liverpool, by Conference Lines, general cargo 47s. 6d.; waste silk 50s.; tea 52s. 6d.; Hamburg, by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s.; waste silk 42s. 6d.; tea 45s. Above rates are subject to a deferred rebate, as per Conference circular. Havre, by Conference Lines, tallow 36s. net, general cargo 36s. net, waste silk 38s. 6d. net, tea 40s. 6d. net; Genoa, by Conference Lines, tallow 36s. net, general cargo 36s. net, waste silk 38s. 6d. net, tea 40s. 6d. net; Marseilles, by Conference Lines, tallow 36s. net, general cargo 36s. net, waste silk 38s. 6d. net, tea 40s. 6d. net. 35s. per ton of 20 cwt. net for above three ports. New York, by sail, 19s. New York via Pacific, 1½ gold cents per lb. tea, 6 cents per lb. silk, \$10 per ton strawbraid. New York via Suez, 27s. 6d. general cargo, 10s. extra for Turmeric, 27s. 6d. for tea. Boston, 35s. general cargo, 10s. extra for Turmeric, 40s. for tea. Philadelphia, 35s. general cargo, 10s. extra for Turmeric, 40s. for tea. Coast rates.—Mojito to Shanghai \$1.50 per ton coal nominal; Nagasaki to Shanghai \$1.50 per ton coal nominal; Newchwang to Kobe closed; Newchwang to Swatow closed; Newchwang to Canton closed; Wuhu to Canton 15 cands.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR LONDON.—Sumatra (str.), Elphinstone (str.), Japan (str.), Parramatta (str.), Hakata Maru (str.).
FOR BREMEN.—Prinz Heinrich (str.).
FOR MARSEILLES.—Hakata Maru (str.), Ernest Simons (str.).
FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—Heidelberg (str.), Dorothea Rickmers (str.).
FOR HAMBURG AND ANTWERP.—Asturia (str.).
FOR GENOA AND HAMBURG.—Sibiria (str.).
FOR SAN FRANCISCO.—Coptic (str.), City of Peking (str.), Sarnia (str.), America Maru (str.), Queen Margaret (str.).
FOR VANCOUVER.—Empress of China (str.).
FOR VICTORIA, B.C. AND PACOMA.—Glenogle (str.).
FOR PORTLAND, O.—Columbia (str.).
FOR SAN DIEGO.—Carlisle City (str.).
FOR NEW YORK.—Commonwealth (str.), Roue, Mogul (str.).
FOR AUSTRALIA.—Taiwan (str.), Tsinon (str.).
FOR THURSDAY ISLAND.—Omi Maru (str.).
FOR SEATTLE.—Bijun Maru (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.
HONGKONG.

December—ARRIVALS.

23. Wongkoi, British str., from Bangkok.
24. Isla de Cuba, Amr. cruiser, from Manila.
24. Lianshing, British str., from Taku.
24. Isin Fung, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
24. Isla de Luzon, Amr. cr., from Manila.
24. Choyang, British str., from Canton.
24. Pakhoi, British str., from Taku Bar.
24. Woosung, British str., from Shanghai.
24. Cheang H. Kian, Brit. str., from S'pore.
24. Actav, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
25. Wuhu, British str., from Tientsin.
25. Meefoo, Chinese str., from Canton.
25. Yedo Maru, Japanese str., from Higo.
25. Whampoa, British str., from Canton.
25. Hunan, British str., from Canton.
25. Kingsing, British str., from Canton.
25. Miike Maru, Japanese str., from Yokohama.
25. Radnorshire, British str., from London.
25. Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
26. Chusan, British str., from Bombay.
26. Chowtai, British str., from Bangkok.
26. Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., from K'notzu.
26. Michael Jensen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
26. Tailee, German str., from Manila.
26. Glenavon, British str., from Shanghai.
26. Kyoto Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
26. Lyeemoon, German str., from Shanghai.
26. Malacca, British str., from London.
26. Biojun Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
26. Siegfried, German str., from Sourabaya.
26. Toyo Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
26. Ebani, British str., from Canton.
26. Taiyuan, British str., from Kobe.
26. Germania, German str., from Saigon.
26. Bormida, Italian str., from Singapore.
27. Kohinur, British str., from Calcutta.
27. Oslo, Norwegian str., from Tamsui.
27. Astrid, Norwegian str., from Hongay.
27. Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
27. Ariel, Norwegian str., from Canton.
27. Plover, British gunboat, from Iloilo.
27. Dr. Hans J. Kear, Norw. str., from Tamsui.
27. Loyal, German str., from Iloilo.
27. Jason, British str., from Singapore.
27. Monzkt, British str., from Saigon.
27. Tsintan, German str., from Rotterdam.
27. Tategami Maru, Jap. str., from Nagasaki.
27. Omi Maru, Japanese str., from Nagasaki.
28. Hangchow, British str., from Canton.
28. Daphne, British sloop, from Manila.
28. Empress of China, Brit. str., from Vancouver.
28. Coptic, British str., from San Francisco.
28. Peshawar, British str., from Bombay.
28. Evie J. Ray, Amr. bark, from Amoy.
28. Machew, British str., from Bangkok.
28. Kalgan, British str., from Shanghai.
28. Immortalite, British cruiser, from a cruise.
29. Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
29. Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
29. Taifu, German str., from Bangkok.
29. Sumatra, British str., from Shanghai.
29. Ingraban, German str., from Saigon.
29. Kwangse, British str., from Chinkiang.
29. Chingping, Chinese str., from Canton.
29. Kweilin, British str., from Canton.
29. Ernest Simons, French str., from Shanghai.
29. Isidelberg, German str., from Kobe.
30. Telena, British str., from Batoum.
30. Phra Nang, British str., from Bangkok.
30. Hsin Fung, Chinese str., from Canton.
30. Esmeralda, British str., from Manila.
30. Canton, British str., from Karatsu.
30. Formosa, British str., from Tamsui.
30. Hailong, British str., from Tamsui.
30. Hating, French str., from Haiphong.
30. Yungching, Chinese str., from Canton.
30. Polyphemus, British str., from Kobe.

December—DEPARTURES.

24. Bamberg, British str., for Singapore.
24. Fausang, British str., for Singapore.
24. Suisang, British str., for Singapore.
24. Coromandel, British str., for Europe, &c.
24. Hunan, British str., for Shanghai.
24. Wingsang, British str., for Shanghai.
24. Taishun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
24. Glenartney, British str., for Singapore.
25. Tetartos, German str., for Saigon.
25. Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
25. Pakhoi, Chinese str., for Canton.
25. Sallberg, German str., for Haiphong.
24. Indrani, British str., for Shanghai.
24. Clara, German str., for Haiphong.
24. Hiroshima Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.

24. Sannki Maru, Jap. str., for London.
24. Hsin Fung, Chinese str., for Canton.
24. Liberal, Portuguese str., for Macao.
24. Hikosan Maru, Jap. str., for K'notzu.
25. Knivberg, German str., for Hongay.
25. Belgic, British str., for Manila.
25. Trym, Norwegian str., for Amoy.
25. Davawongse, British str., for Swatow.
25. Hongkong, French str., for Manila.
26. Woosung, British str., for Canton.
26. Wuhu, British str., for Canton.
26. Chusan, British str., for Shanghai.
26. Rohilla, British str., for Yokohama.
26. Lianshing, British str., for Canton.
25. Iolani, Hawaiian bark, for New York.
26. Choyang, British str., for Shanghai.
27. C. H. Kian, British str., for Amoy.
27. Hunan, British str., for Shanghai.
27. Whampoa, British str., for Shanghai.
27. Lyeemoon, German str., for Canton.
27. Immortalite, British cr., for a cruise.
27. Miike Maru, Jap. str., for Bombay.
27. Meefoo, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
27. Malacca, British str., for Shanghai.
27. Belgic, British str., for Manila.
28. Hongkong, French str., for Manila.
28. Pronto, German str., for Tournon.
28. Tailee, German str., for Manila.
28. Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., for Kutchinotzu.
28. Hua, French str., for Haiphong.
28. Aztec, Hawaiian str., for San Francisco.
28. Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
28. Menmuir, British str., for Kobe.
28. Hector, British str., for London.
28. Picciola, German str., for Saigon.
29. Loyal, German str., for Hongay.
29. Hangchow, British str., for Shanghai.
29. Jason, British str., for Amoy.
29. Michael Jensen, German str., for Hoihow.
29. Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.
29. Fushun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
29. Glenavon, British str., for London.
29. Kalgan, British str., for Canton.
29. Propontis, British str., for Singapore.
30. Tsintan, German str., for Kiaochau.
30. Holstein, German str., for Saigon.
30. Kweilin, British str., for Amoy.
30. Hokoku Maru, Jap. str., for Moji.
30. Radnorshire, British str., for Nagasaki.
30. Yedo Maru, Japanese str., for Saigon.
30. Wongkoi, British str., for Swatow.
30. Tategami Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
30. Taiyuan, British str., for Australia.
30. Astrid, Norwegian str., for Hongay.
30. Omi Maru, Jap. str., for Australia.
30. Sumatra, British str., for London.
30. Kwangse, British str., for Canton.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Haitan*, from Coast Ports, Lord Charles Beresford, Mr. R. Gray (Secretary), Dr. Morrison, Messrs. Drake, Y. Shega, Choy Chee Seong, Pong, Fung Chung Po, and Shun.

Per *Chusan*, for Hongkong, from London, Major-General and Mrs. Gascoyne and maid, Lieut. Col. A. Fraser, Capt. The Hon. A. Trefusis, Miss Goulden, Messrs. R. Johnston, J. Kemp, A. Bower, Hyne, W. Graham, Rawcliffe, J. Wright, R. Thompson, G. Johnson, Coverley, Finlay, D. Beatty and Peacock, from Marseilles, Mr. Phillips, from Brindisi, W. Phillips, from Bombay, Mr. E. Abrahams, from Singapore, Messrs. Hilton and C. de M. Guerreiro, for Shanghai, from London, Mr. and Mrs. Kinman, Misses E. Clarke, M. Brown, E. Rogers, R. Ralston, M. Turner, H. Hooper, Melville, Bishop, Ashley, Messrs. D. Mennie, Wharton, Matter, Arnott, T. Jones, Wood, and Capt. Daubeny, from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Burder and Mr. Keswick, from Brindisi, Mr. S. Newson, from Singapore, Mr. S. McLaughlin, for Yokohama, from Brindisi, W. Ellis, from Colombo, General Cummings, from Bombay, J. de Champion.

Per *Lyeemoon*, from Shanghai, Messrs. C. Sautier and T. Cerny.

Per *Biojun Maru*, from Moji, Messrs. Nelson and B. Hamersen.

Per *Malacca*, from London, Mrs. Bolster, Miss Triscott, Mr. and Mrs. Hogge, Mr. and Mrs. Taylor and 2 children, Capt. and Mrs. Roach and 2 children, Lieut. F. Howarth Booth, Messrs. C. Blason, W. S. Ryan, and F. Kaye.

Per *Kohinur*, from Calcutta, &c., Mr. Jno. O'Donnell, Jemadar Najid Ali and wife, Jemadar Rang Shah, R.K.R., and 473 Chinese.

Per *Omi Maru*, from Nagasaki, Mr. and Mrs. Turner, Mr. and Mrs. Threlkethway, Mr. and Mrs. Yefaki, Japanese Consul for Sydney, Mr. G. Kinohi.

Per *Empress of China*, from Vancouver, Mr. Stan S. French, Mr. Granville Sharp, and Miss Hammingway, from Yokohama, Miss Hutton Potts, Col. G. L. Jewett, Messrs. A. E. Blake, J. L. Birley, from Kobe, Miss Rotten, Miss Dale, Dr. A. de Potter, Mrs. W. P. Hazelton, Mr. and Mrs. Penn, Mrs. G. C. Laumann, Miss R. Brevoort, Miss S. Williams, Mrs. W. E. Perkins, Miss L. McComb, Miss Mills, Mr. A. R. Brown, Mrs. E. H. Stewart, and Mr. Tlemann, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Cartwright, Miss Ellis, Miss A. M. Goulding, Miss E. Goulding, Mr. E. A. Goulding, and Mr. E. E. White.

Per *Coptic*, from San Francisco, Miss I. N. Clayton, Mr. P. D. Arman, Miss Ollie O'Brien, Mrs. J. Stolsenberg, Lieut. Com. McCracken, U.S.N., Mrs. McCracken and child, Mrs. McPherson, Lieut. T. M. Anderson, U.S.A., Lieut. P. J. Werlick, U.S.N., Capt. L. B. Walls, Capt. Geo. C. Stoll, U.S.A., Mr. B. R. A. Niemvinkzen, Lieut. L. D. Laskore, U.S.A., Col. F. W. Ames, U.S.A., Lieut. J. G. Chambers, U.S.A., Lieut. G. N. Conrad, U.S.A., Mr. R. C. Kingsley, Lieut. W. S. Overton, U.S.A., Mrs. H. E. Parmenter, Mrs. R. T. Hall.

Per *Yuensang*, from Manila, Messrs. McCutcheon, Montero Zarco Casanova, wife and sons, Clayton, Chelaron, Wilkerson Fina and family, Kuapp, Dolmad, Davis, and Velasco, Mrs. Portilla and Mrs. Josefa Pagas Manuela Portilla.

Per *Sumatra*, for Hongkong from Shanghai, Mr. W. Robinson, from Foochow, Rev. and Mrs. Howe, from Amoy, Messrs. Masari and Soa Fes Apan.

DEPARTED.

Per *Coromandel*, from Hongkong for Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Hunter and 2 children, Mr. C. J. Demee, Major-General Wilson Black, Mrs. Black, Mr. Henry Mayer, Mr. and Mrs. and Miss De Burgh Perse, for Penang, Mr. Leung Lok Hing, for Colombo, Mr. E. H. Blatchford, for Ismailia, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Latta, Miss E. A. Middlebrook, Mr. L. L. Colver, Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Barton, for Brindisi, Mr. and Mrs. James Hogg, Mr. W. J. Hogg, Messrs. H. Callaghan, J. O. Hutchinson, G. L. Hazard, Mrs. R. M. Anderson, Mr. I. J. Treves, Dr. Angiolo Orziato, and Mr. Giza Von Ostroluczy, for Marseilles, Mr. A. Ardizzone, for London via Marseilles, Mr. F. M. Firth, Comdr. W. H. Taylor, R.N., for London, Rev. Marshall Hartley, Mr. E. J. Hartley, Lieut. A. B. S. Dutton, R.N., Col. Montgomery, Mr. and Mrs. David Reid, Miss Stuart, Messrs. Peter Rankin and Wickham, from Yokohama for Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Houghton, for Penang, Count Wydenbruck, for London, Messrs. J. Vandy Braddon, T. Vickers, A. H. Dare, and H. Rayment, from Shanghai for Singapore, Mr. J. A. N. Pickering, for Penang, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Dow, for Bombay, Mr. J. E. Juddah, for Port Said, Mr. Von Schoultz, for Brindisi, Mr. J. E. Macdonald, Mrs. and Miss Fiske, for London, Mr. and Mrs. Whitehouse.

Per *Belgie*, for Manila, Capt. C. C. Cornwall, U.S.N., Lieut. Vreeland, U.S.N., J. H. Bull, U.S.N., C. E. Fox, U.S.N., A. P. Niblack, U.S.N., P. W. Hourigan, U.S.N., Messrs. H. Peterson, U.S.N., W. L. Littlefield, U.S.N., J. P. Morton, U.S.N., Jas. Donald, U.S.N., Dr. Jas. Houghton, U.S.N., Capt. Danny, Dr. Ed. Bedloe, Mrs. H. Peterson, Mrs. Norris, Mrs. Flavel and Misses (2) Flavel, Mrs. and Miss Fiske, Miss H. Jenney, Mrs. Luce, Mrs. Doertenback and infant, Miss Lynwood, Mr. and Mrs. Hogge, Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Sheridan, Messrs. Geo. Armstrong, H. Hilton, Le Champion, L. Ladow, R. Leinan, W. T. Phillips, L. H. Phillips, A. J. Bower, C. E. Ellis, P. H. Reynolds, Ramirez, Rev. W. H. Lingle, for Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Ellinger, Mr. Whittier, Misses (2) Whittier, Major R. S. Stephen, Dr. Spotsier, Mr. A. J. David, Master David, and Mr. C. S. Graham.

Per *Malacca*, for Shanghai from Hongkong, Mr. Leo Alexander, from London, Mr. and Mrs. Taylor and 2 children, and Mr. Kaye.

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